



# The status of particle CT at DKFZ and UiB

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[8] Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Budapest, Hungary

[9] ] Heidleberg Ion-Beam Thearpy Center (HIT), Heidelberg, Germany





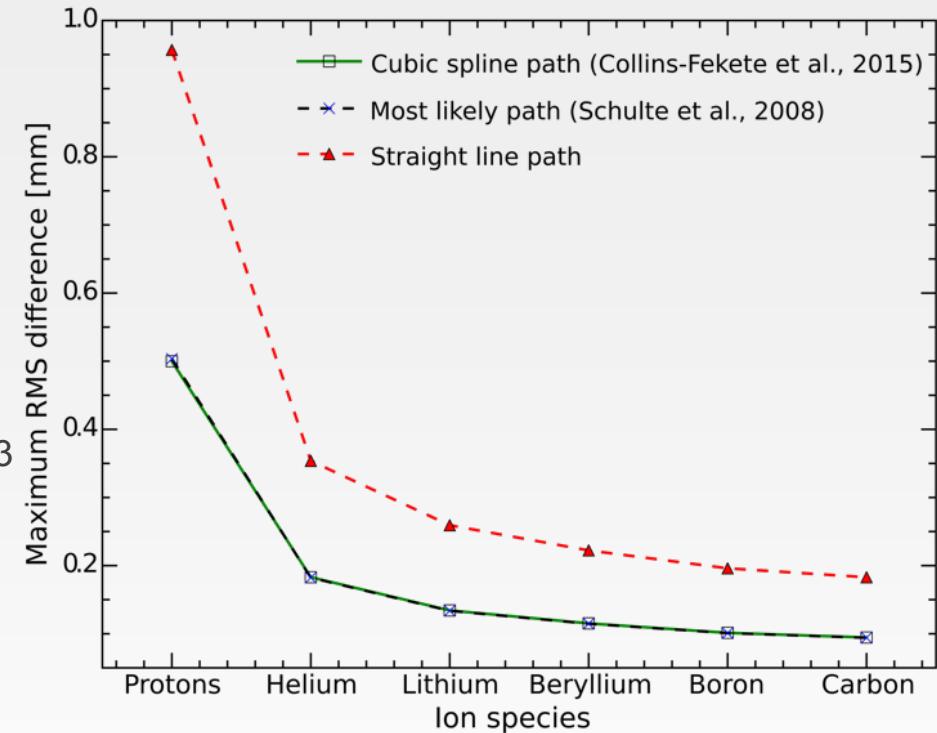
# Summary

- Introduction
- HeCT at DKFZ
  - ➔ Simulation and experiment with the pCT scanner at HIT
  - ➔ Filtering fragments (by Lennart Volz)
- The UiB pCT project
  - ➔ Fist experiment at HIT



# Helium imaging: why?

- Lower multiple Coulomb scattering compared to protons
  - Higher achievable spatial resolution<sup>1,2</sup>
- Lower energy/range straggling compared to protons
  - Higher achievable precision<sup>3</sup>
- Lower dose and less fragmentation compared to heavier ions<sup>4</sup>
- Rising interest in helium ion therapy<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Collins-Fekete et al. (2017); <sup>3</sup> Gehrke et al. (2018);

<sup>2</sup> Piersimoni et al. (2018);

<sup>4</sup> Mairani et al. (2016)

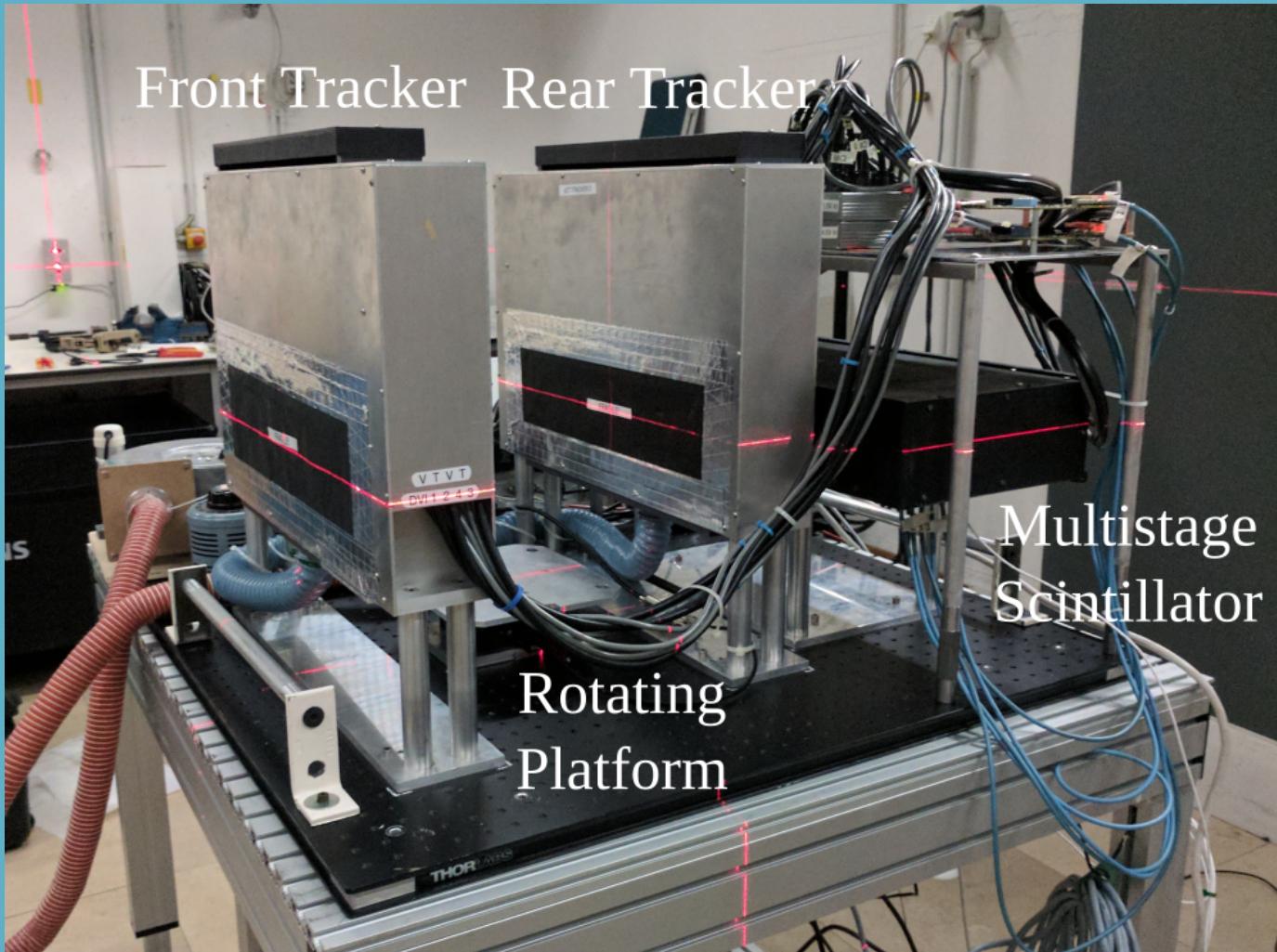


# HeCT at DKFZ

# Experiment at HIT

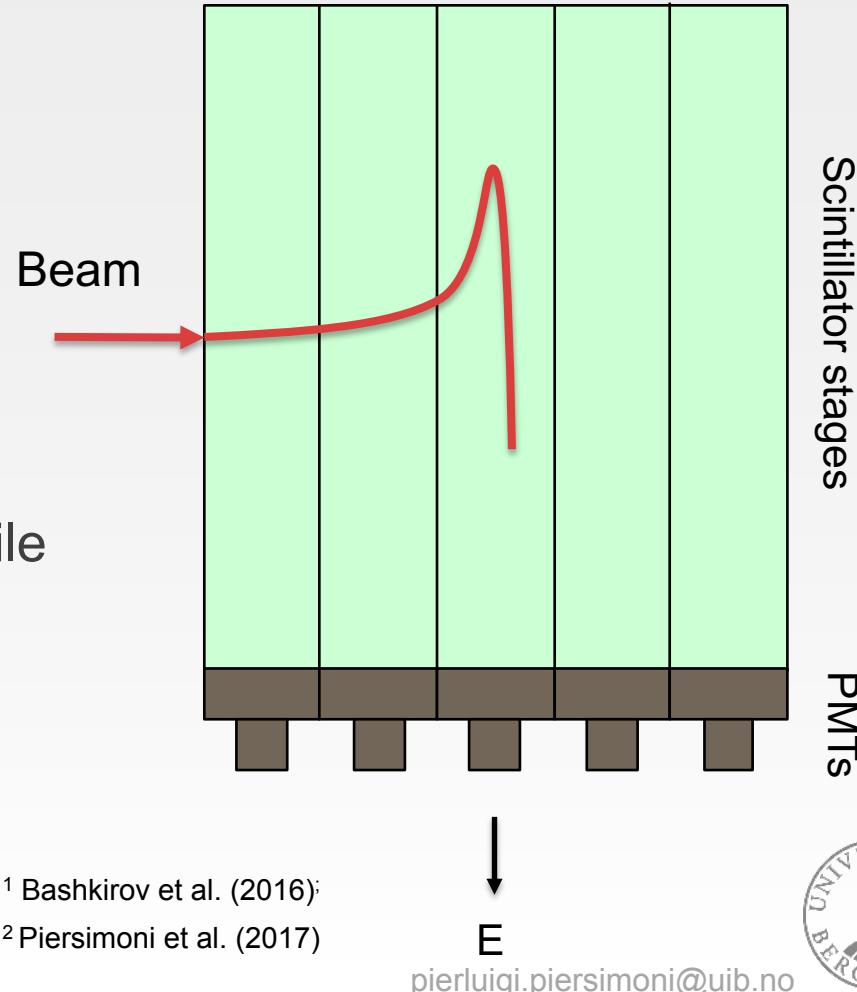


December 2016 – January 2017



# pCT scanner multistage energy detector

- 5 stage energy/range detector<sup>1</sup>
- Plastic scintillator material<sup>1,2</sup>  
 $RSP_{exp} = 1.030 \pm 0.003$ ;  
 $RSP_{sim} = 1.043$
- Particle detection rate up to  
~1MHz at less than 5% event-pile  
up
- Calibration to WET using  
polystyrene object of known  
thickness<sup>1,2</sup>



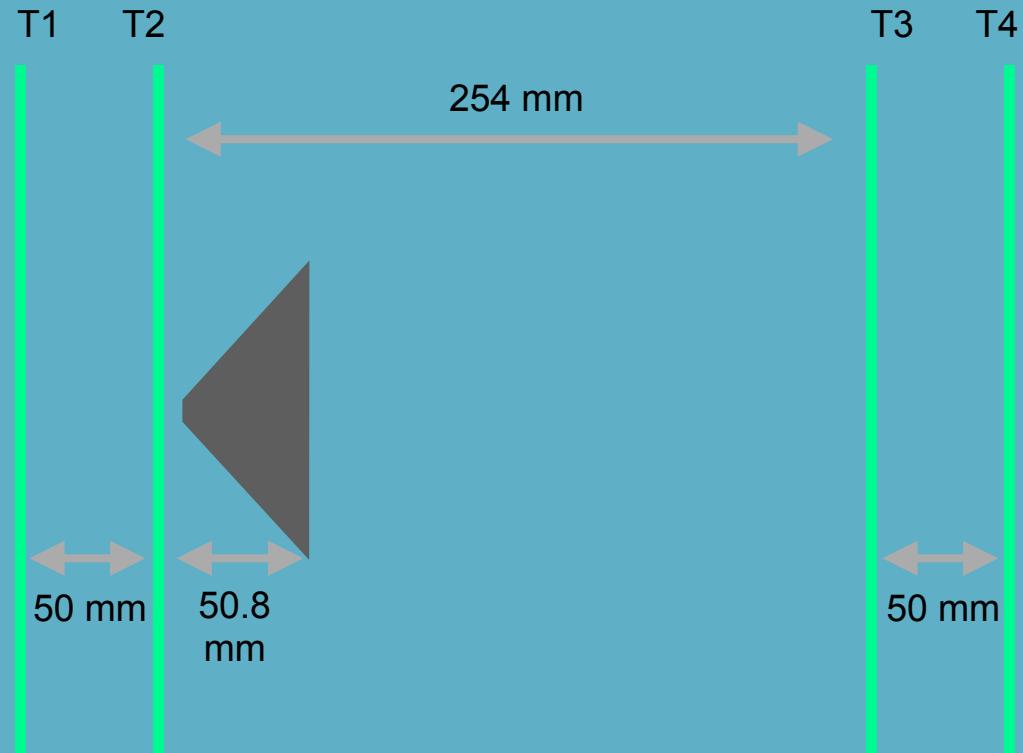
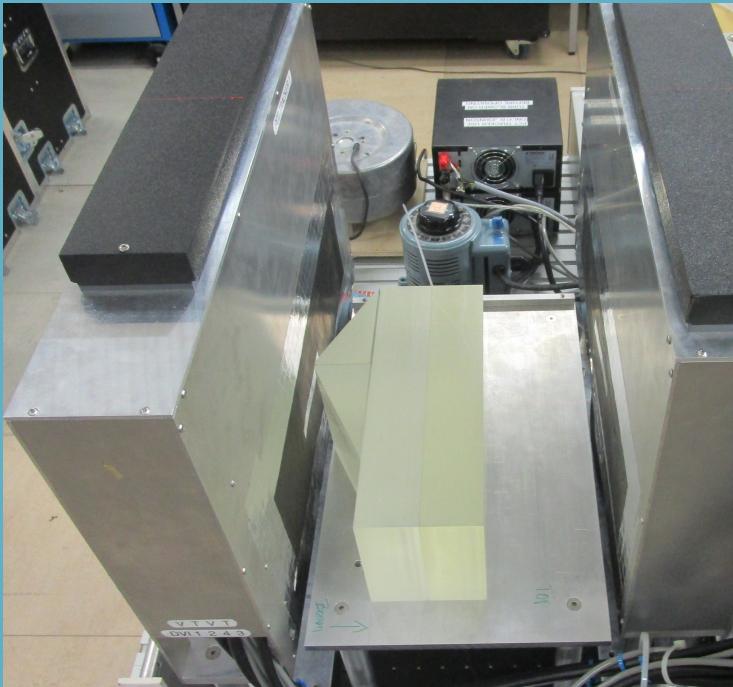
<sup>1</sup> Bashkirov et al. (2016)

<sup>2</sup> Piersimoni et al. (2017)

# Energy to WEPL



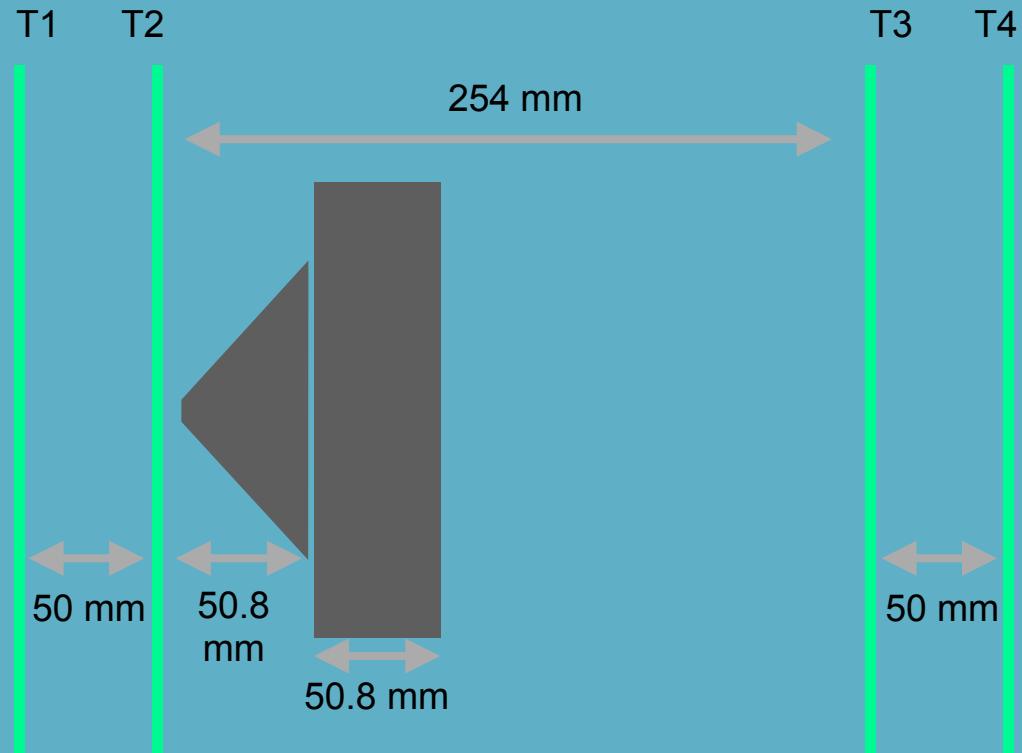
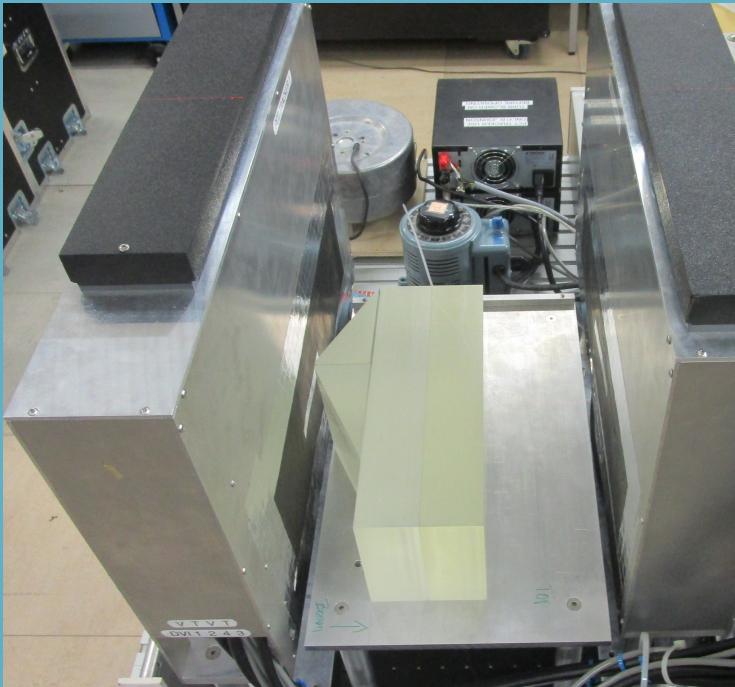
## Calibration



# Energy to WEPL



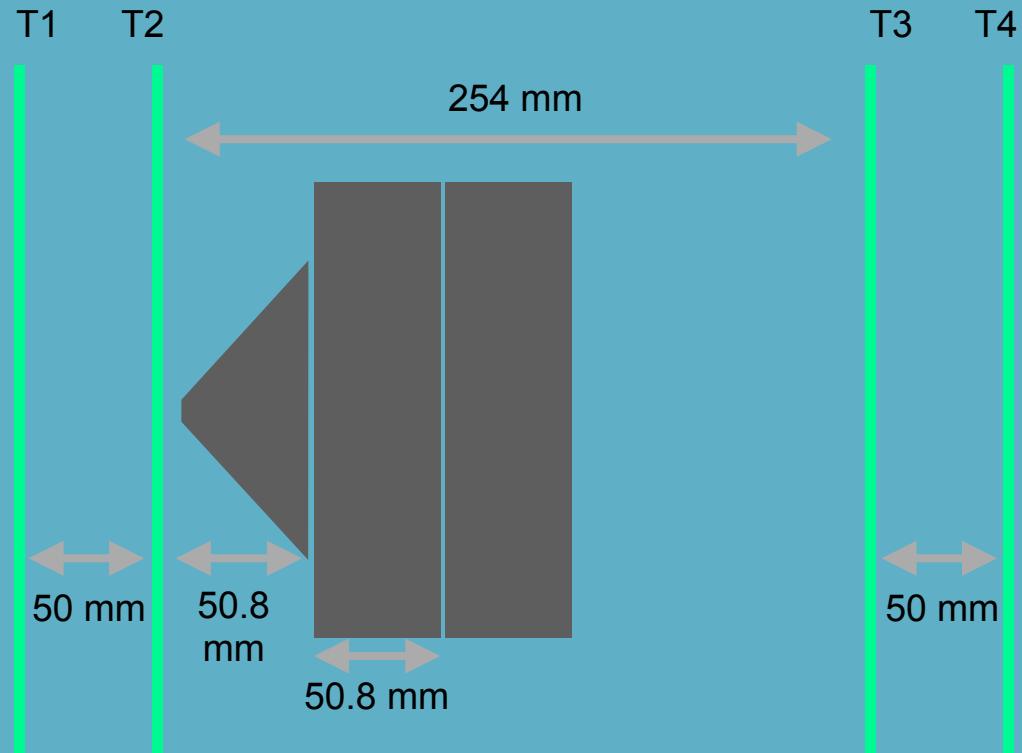
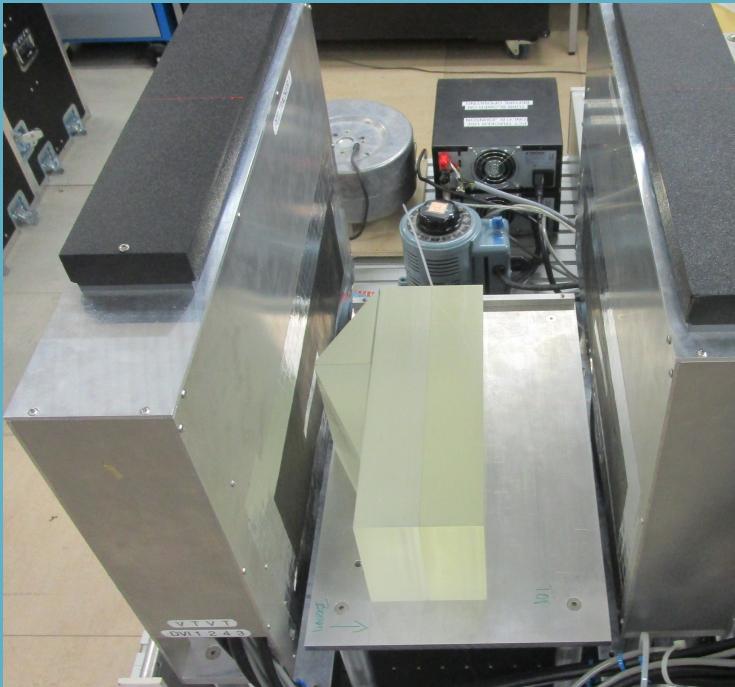
## Calibration



# Energy to WEPL



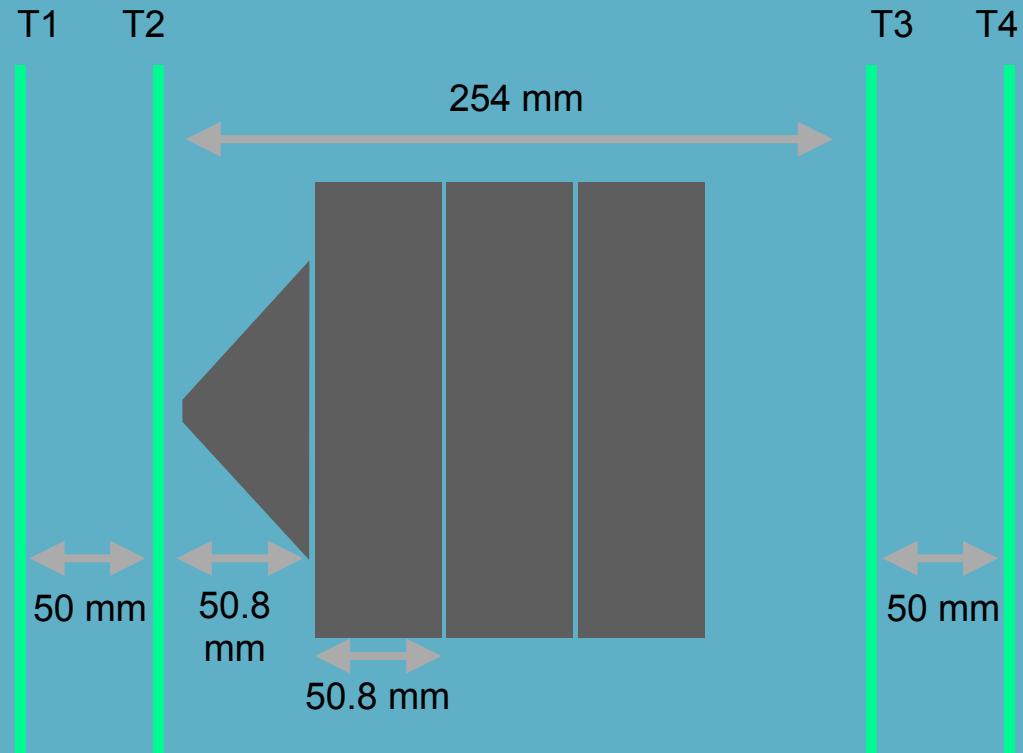
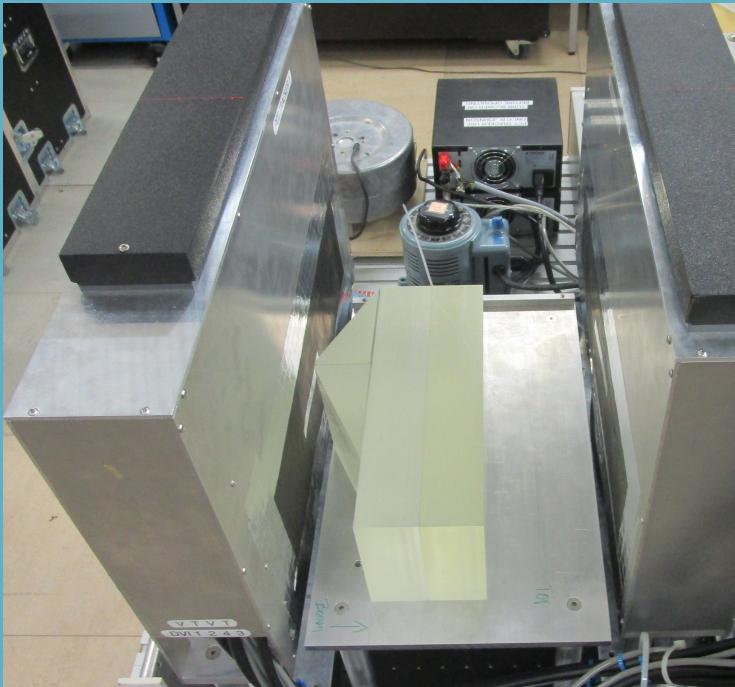
## Calibration



# Energy to WEPL



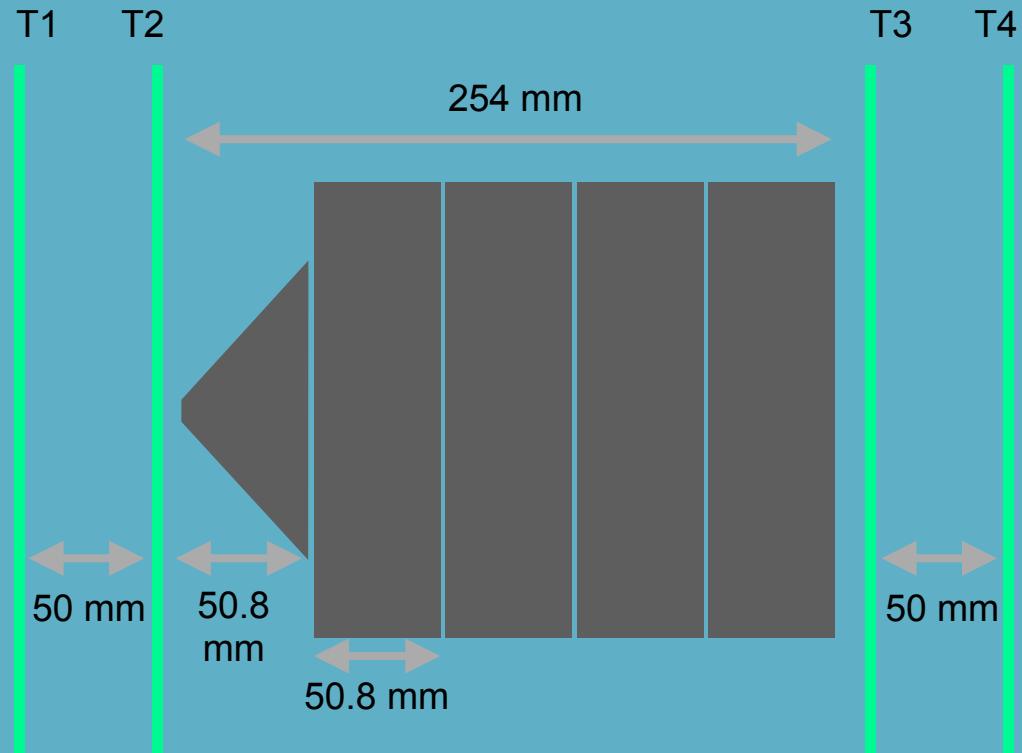
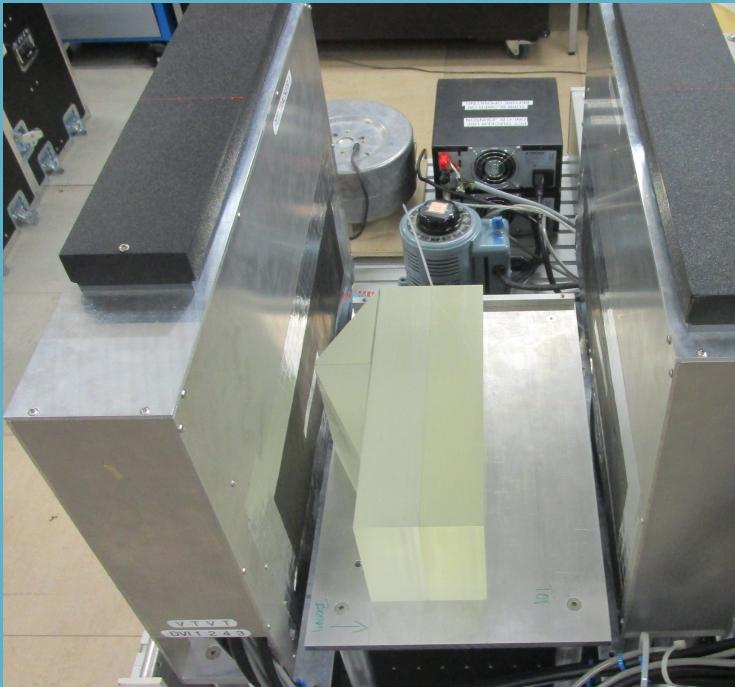
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# Energy to WEPL



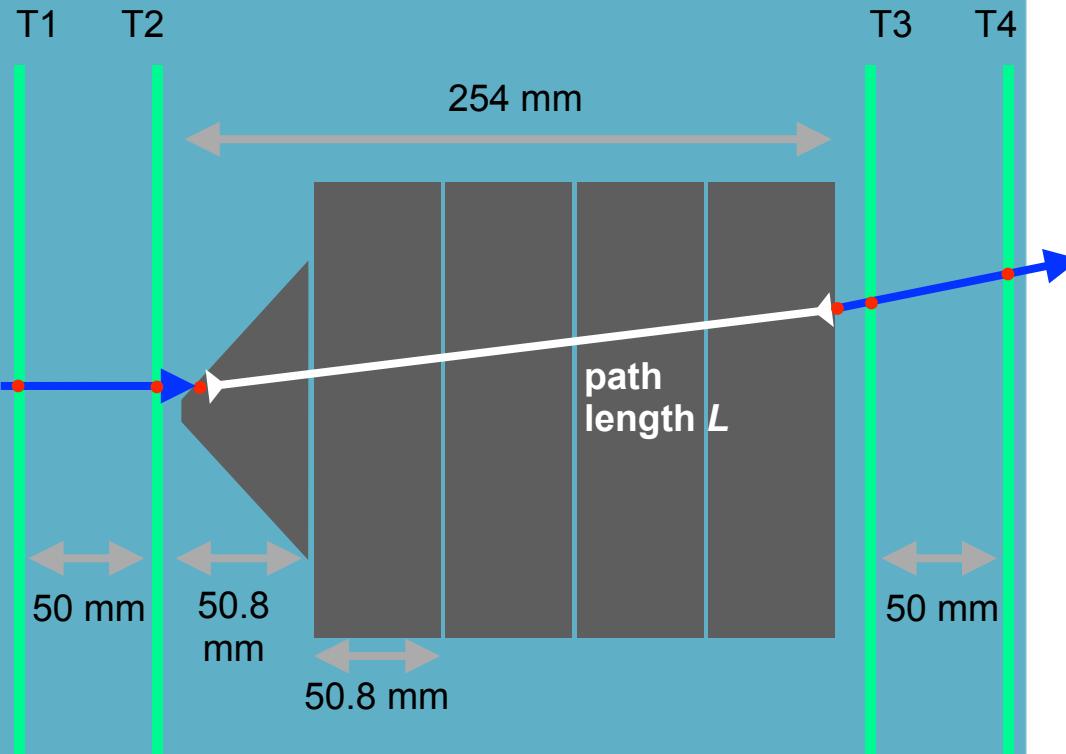
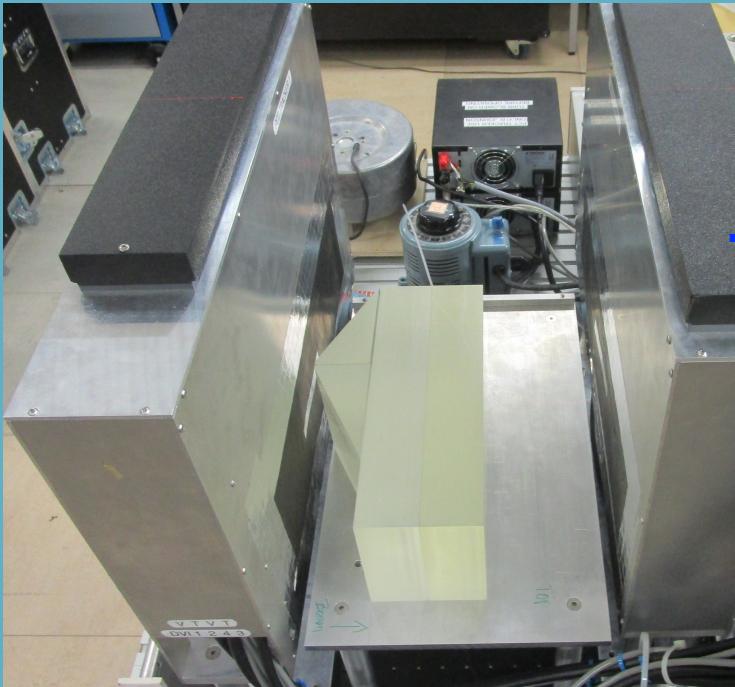
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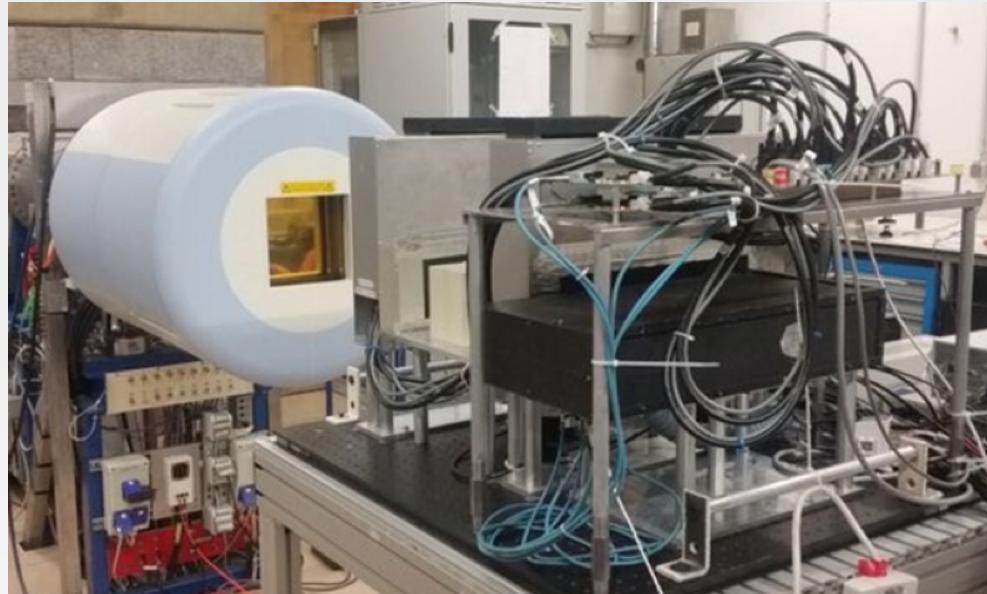
# Energy to WEPL



## Calibration



# Beam settings and scanning experiment

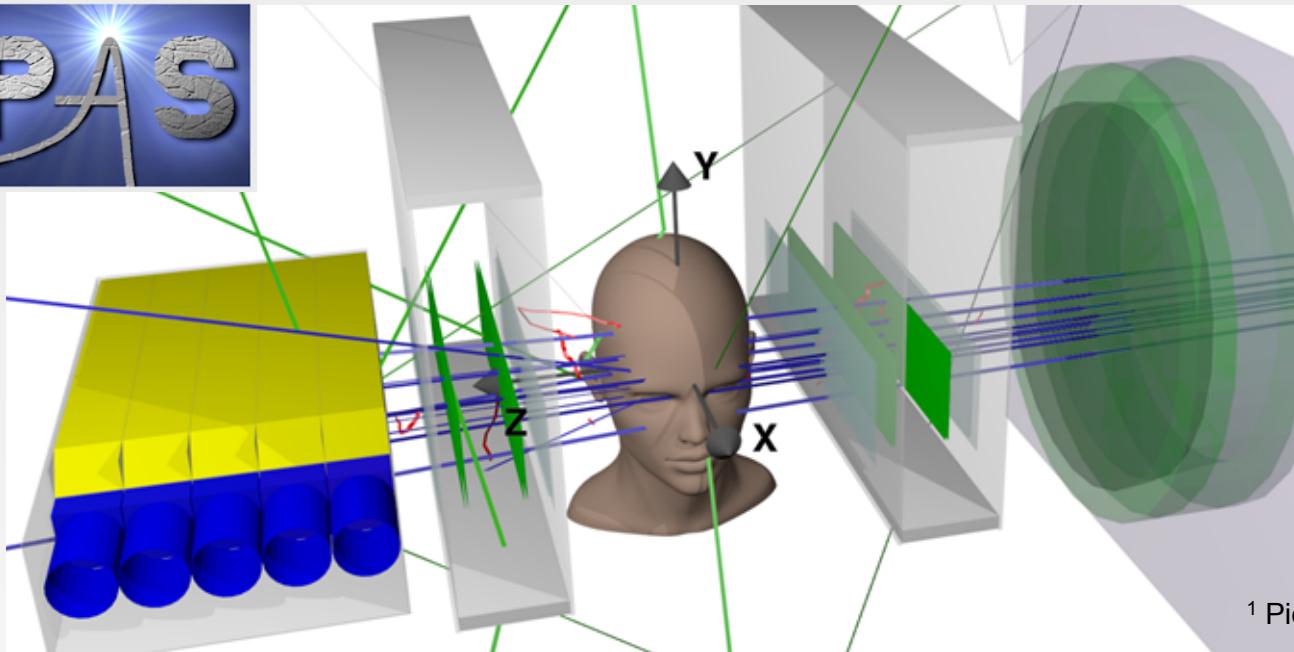


- Experiments conducted at the beam line dedicated to experiments at HIT<sup>1</sup>
- Experiment: Raster scanning (10.8 mm FWHM spots)
  - $\sim 2.5 \cdot 10^6$  part./proj. ( $\sim 800$  kHz)
  - $E_{in} = 200$  MeV/u
  - 90 projections
  - 4° step<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harberer et al. (2004);

<sup>2</sup> Plautz et al. (2016)

# Monte Carlo simulation

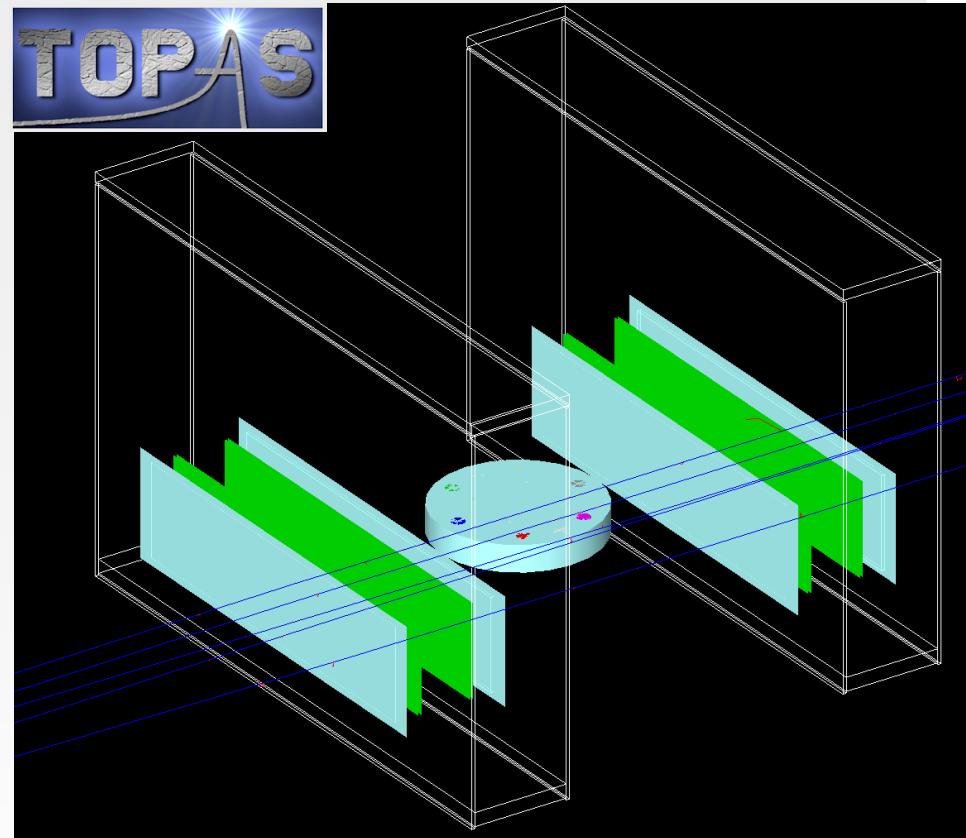


<sup>1</sup> Piersimoni et al. (2017);

- TOPAS 2.0  
based on Geant4 10.01.02
- Physics list activated for both  
electromagnetic and nuclear  
processes
- pCT geometry for  
tracker system
- Full simulation of the MSS
- Rectangular flat source  
 $9 \times 36 \text{ cm}^2$   
energy 200 MeV/u

# pCT scanner multistage energy detector

- pCT geometry for tracker system
- Ideal energy detector: energy scored directly on the trackers
- Ideal beam: rectangular flat source  $9 \times 36 \text{ cm}^2$  energy 200 MeV/u

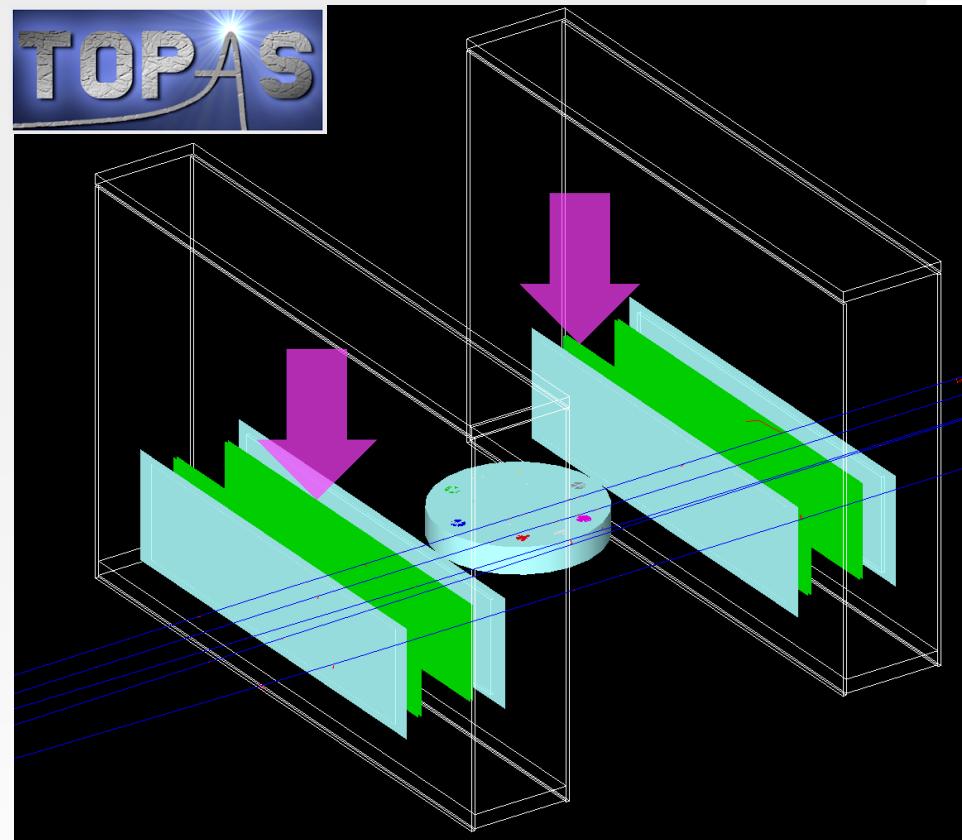


Piersimoni et al. (2018)



# pCT scanner multistage energy detector

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Piersimoni et al. (2018)





# Simulated only phantom

- Water cylinder 15.0 cm diameter, 8.0 cm height
- Insert Phantom 1 (IP1): 5 inserts of 3 cm diameter made of different materials

● Cortical bone  
density:  $1.75 \text{ g/cm}^3$

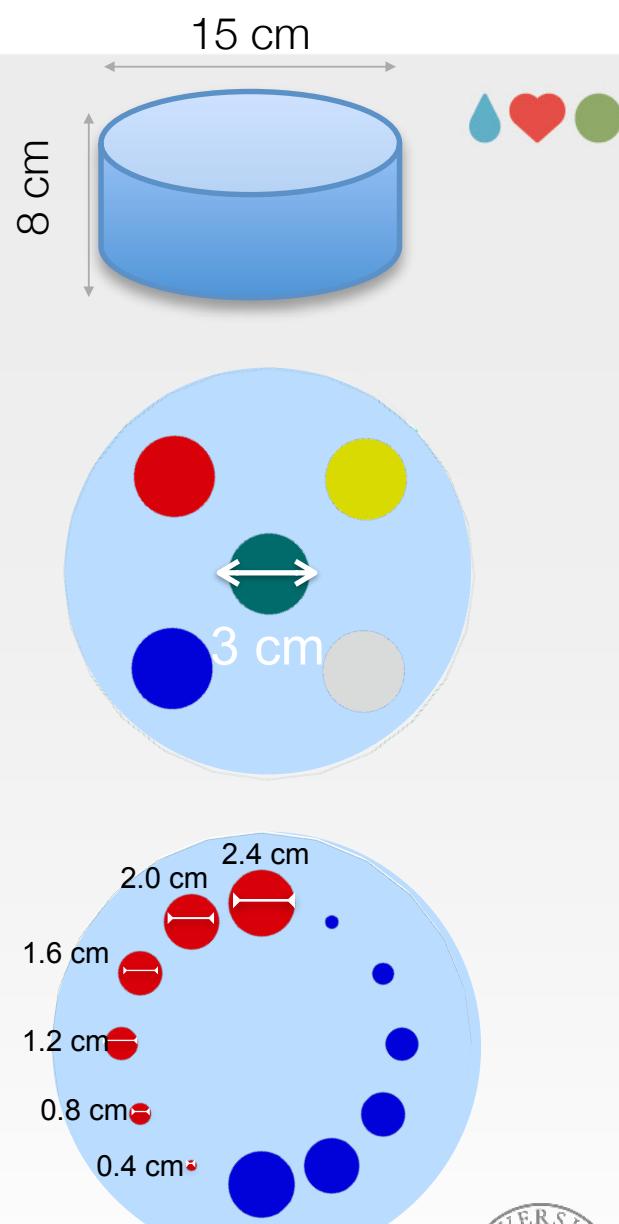
● Trabecular bone  
density:  $1.13 \text{ g/cm}^3$

● Tooth enamel  
density:  $2.04 \text{ g/cm}^3$

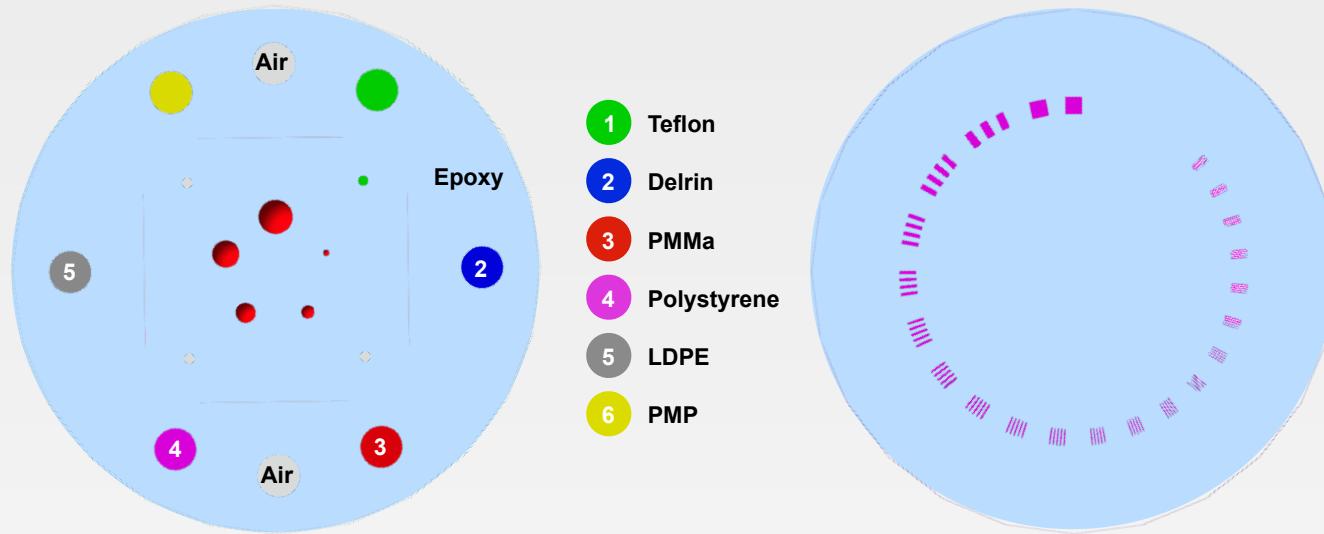
● Brain tissue  
density:  $1.07 \text{ g/cm}^3$

● Tooth dentine  
density:  $1.66 \text{ g/cm}^3$

Piersimoni et al. (2017)



# CATPHAN phantoms



- Sensitometry module (CTP404):  
15 cm diameter, 4 cm thickness,  
8 cylindrical inserts of 1.22 cm  
diameter
- High resolution module (CTP528):  
15 cm diameter, 4 cm thickness,  
21 groups of high-contrast aluminum  
bars ranging from 1 to 21 line pairs  
per cm

\*Catphan® 600 series

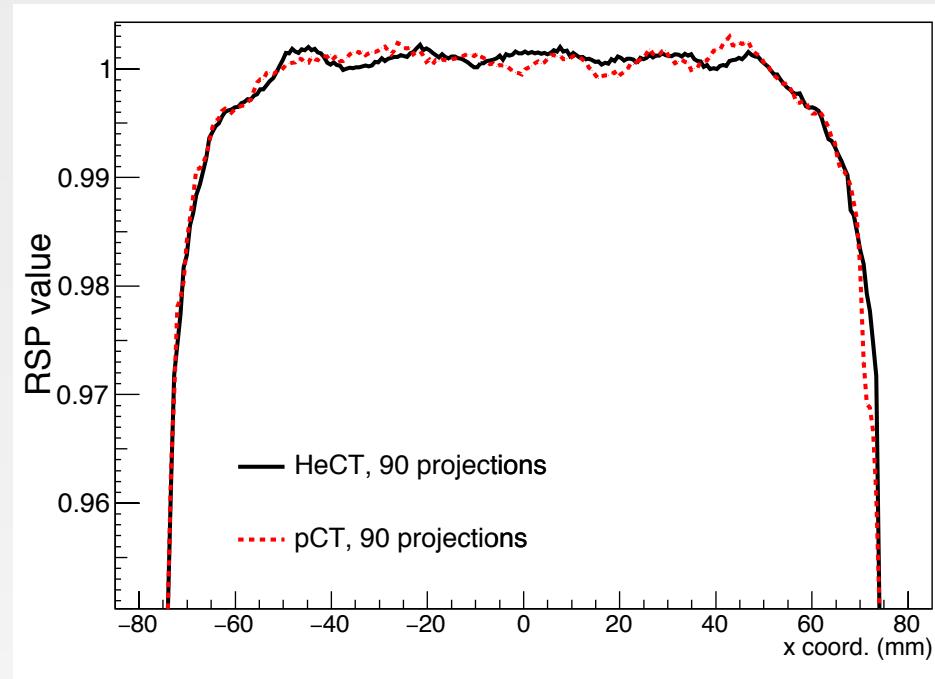
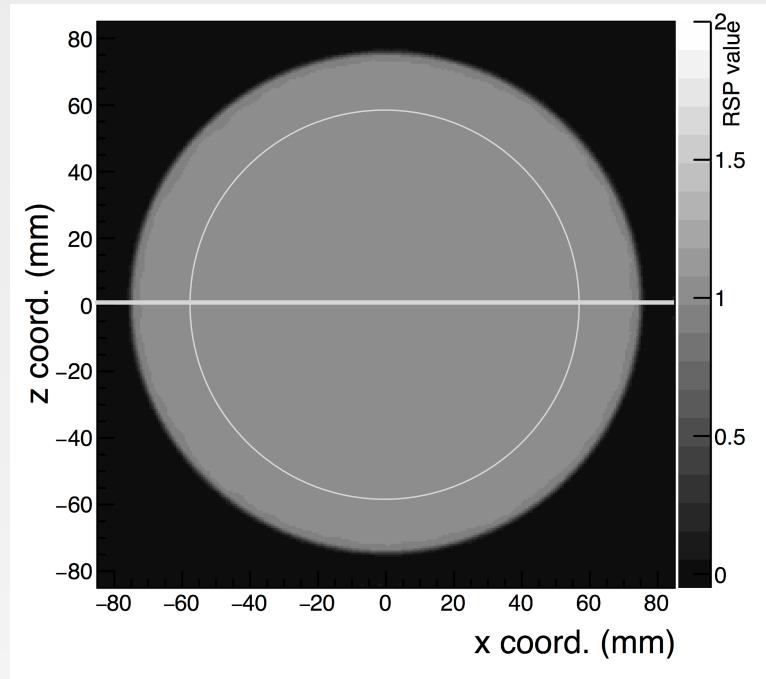
The Phantom Laboratory, Salem, New York, USA



# Results for the ideal simulation

# Water phantom

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- 90 projections, 4° step
- 2x106 primaries per projection
- 1.25 mm slice thickness

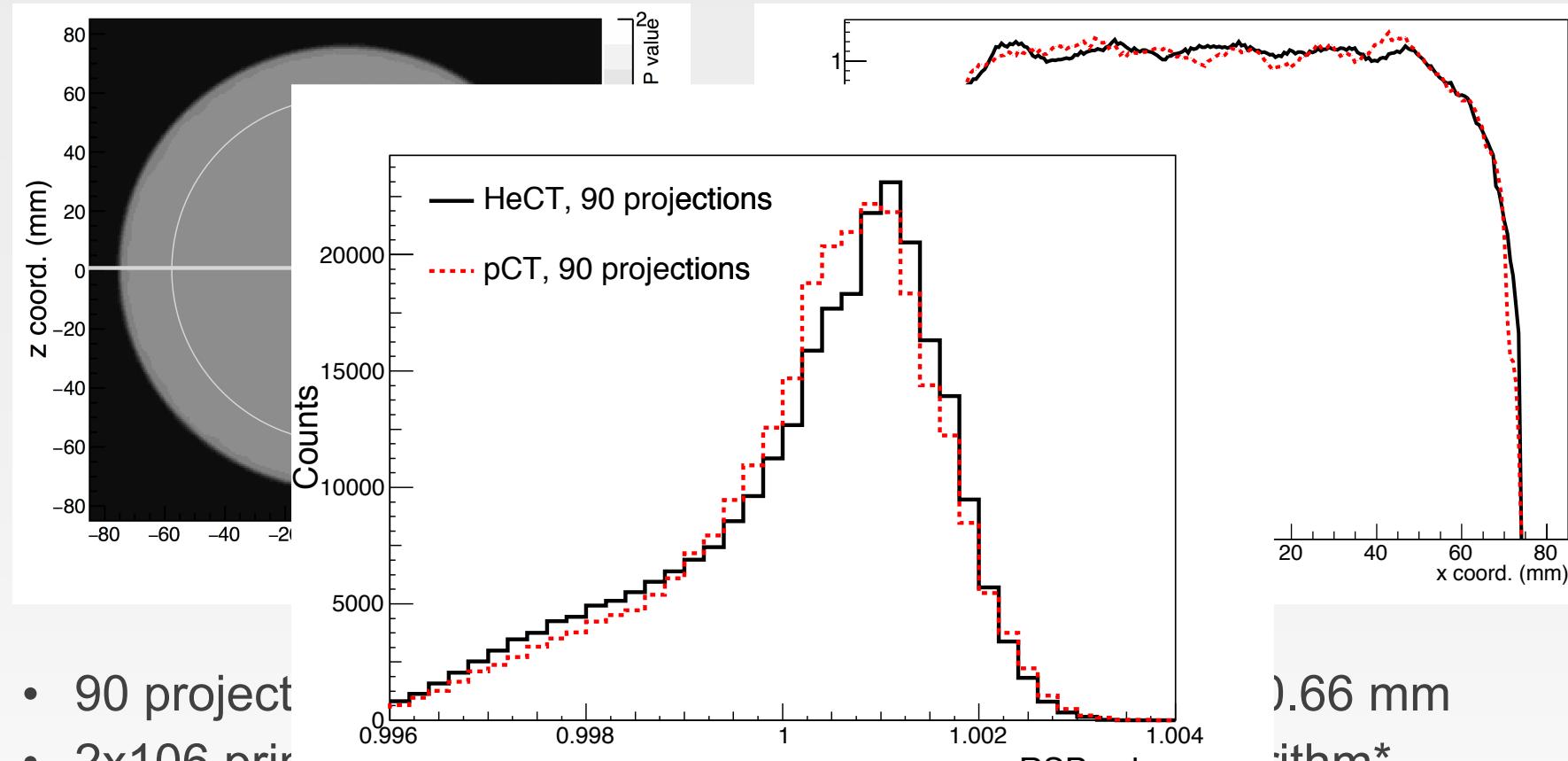
- 256x256 pixels, 0.66 mm
- TVS-DROP algorithm\*
- 6 iterations, 40 blocks

\*Penfold et al., 2010



# Water phantom

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- 90 projections
- 2x106 prior projection
- 1.25 mm slice thickness

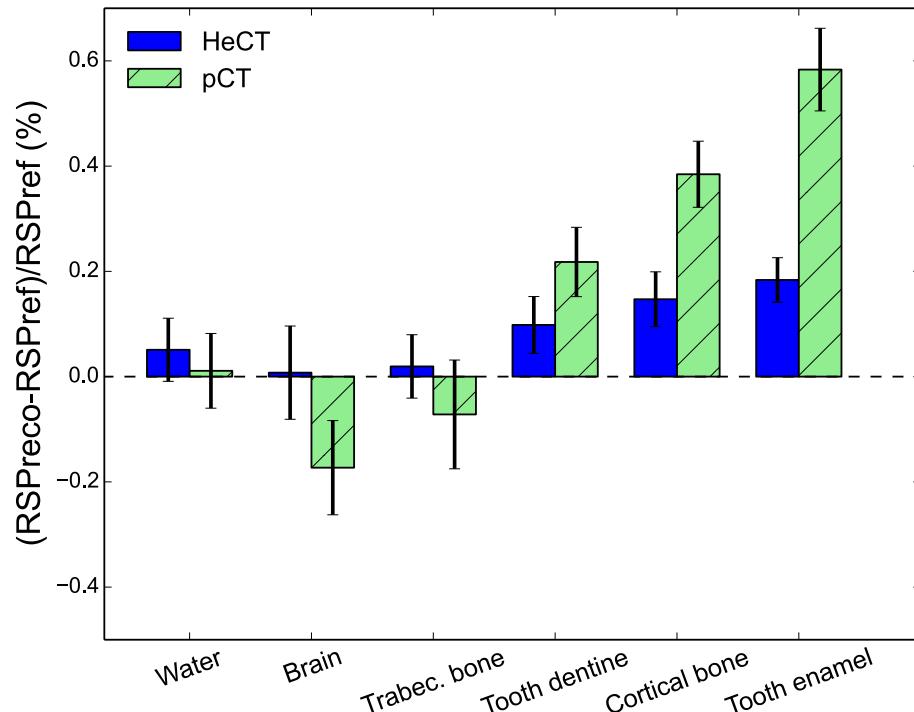
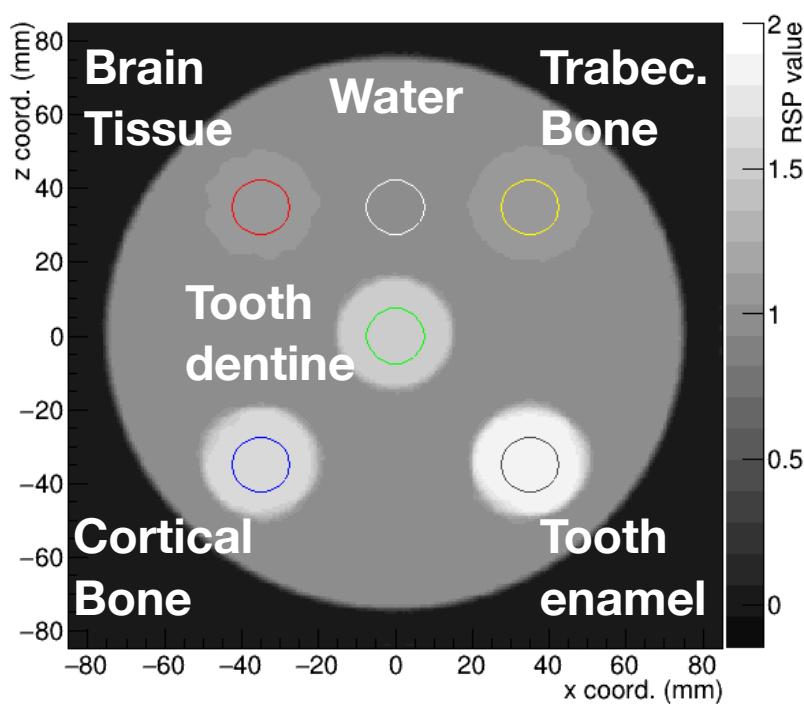
- 6 iterations, 40 blocks

\*Penfold et al., 2010



# IP1 phantom

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- 90 projections,  $4^\circ$  step
- $2 \times 10^6$  primaries per projection
- 1.25 cm slice thickness

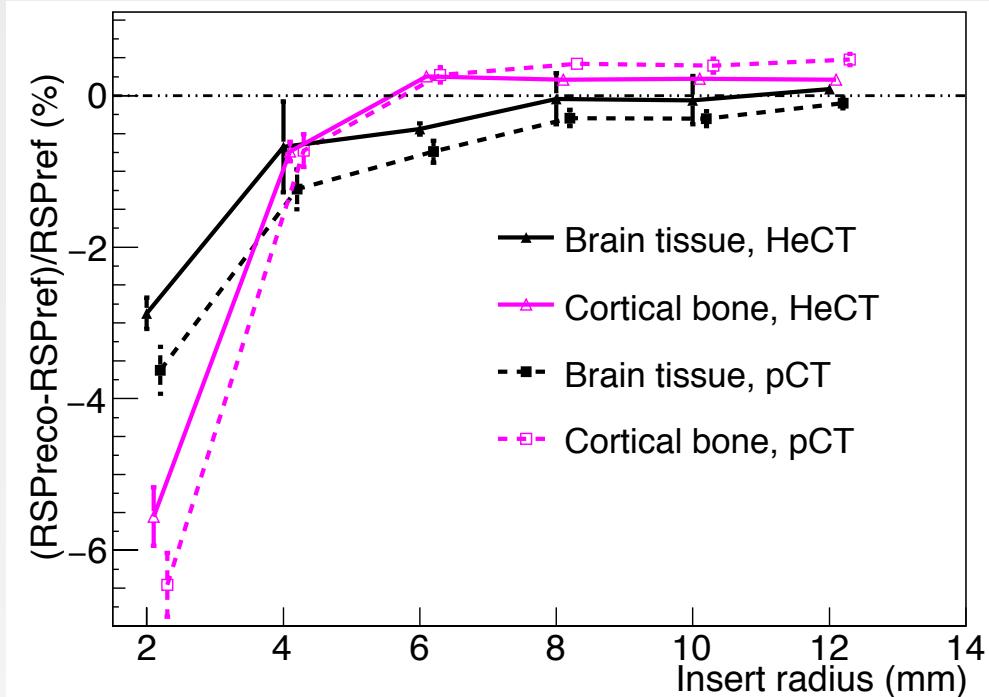
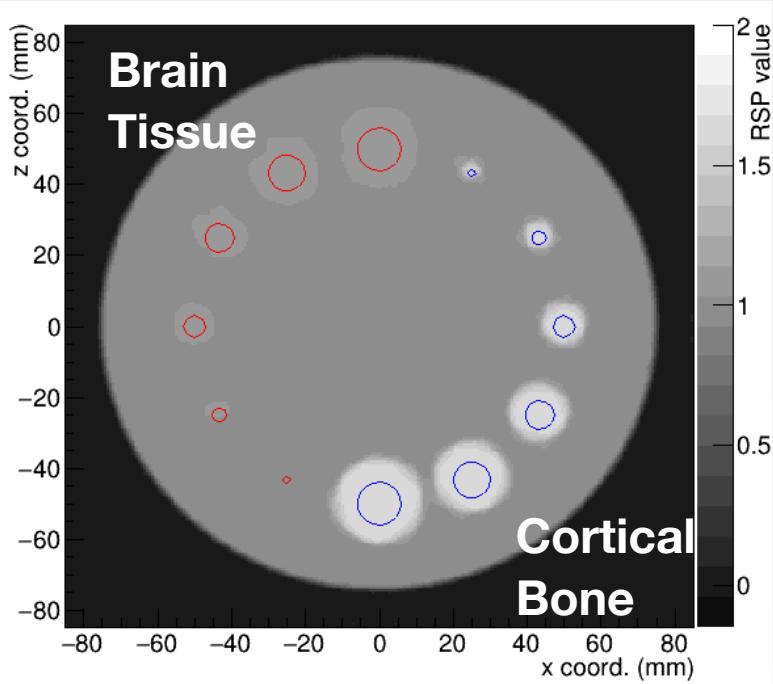
- 256x256 pixels, 0.66 mm
- TVS-DROP algorithm\*
- 6 iterations, 40 blocks

\*Penfold et al., 2010



# IP2 phantom

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- 90 projections,  $4^\circ$  step
- $2 \times 10^6$  primaries per projection
- 1.25 cm slice thickness

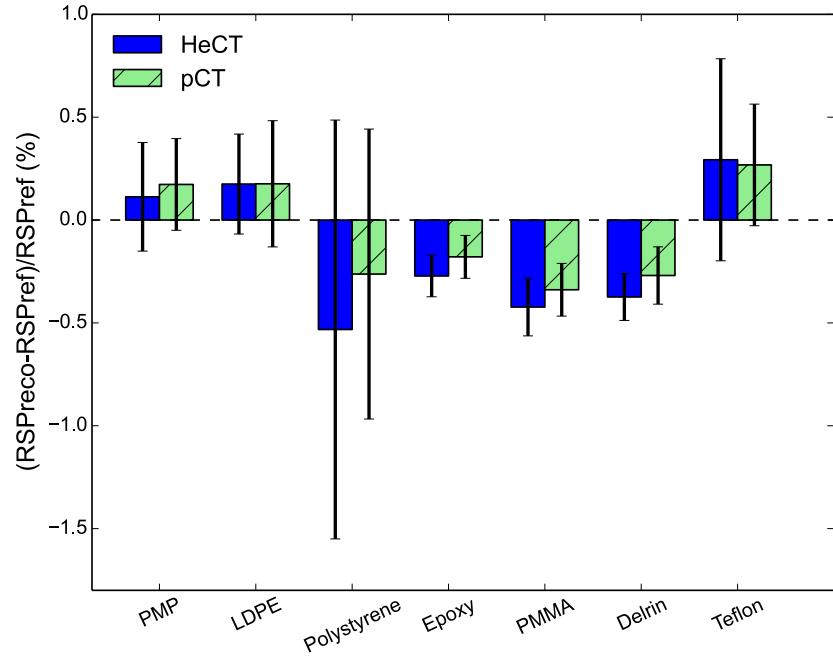
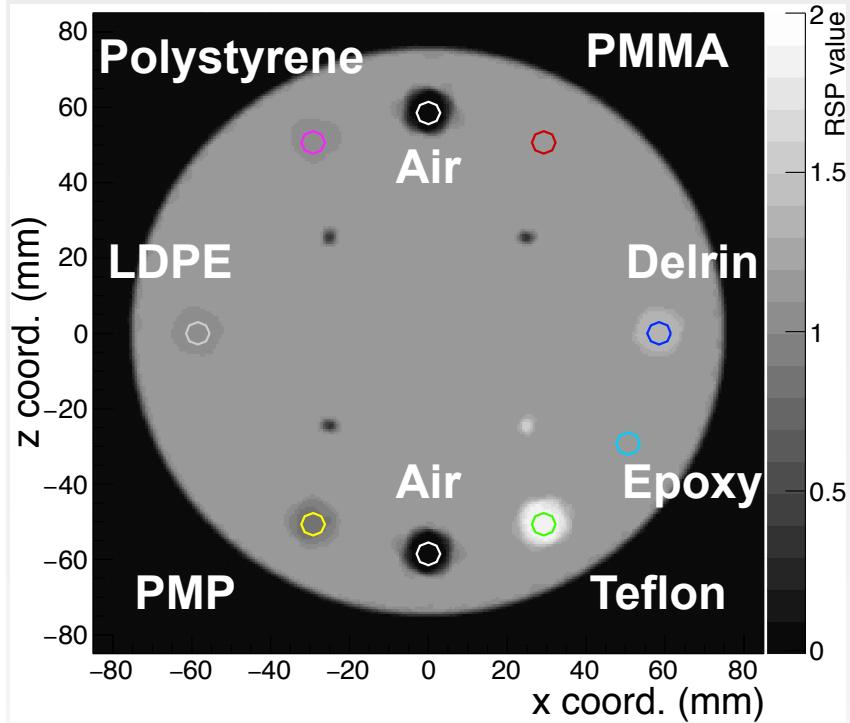
- 256x256 pixels, 0.66 mm
- TVS-DROP algorithm\*
- 6 iterations, 40 blocks

\*Penfold et al., 2010



# IP1 phantom

UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN



- 90 projections,  $4^\circ$  step
- $2 \times 10^6$  primaries per projection
- 1.25 cm slice thickness

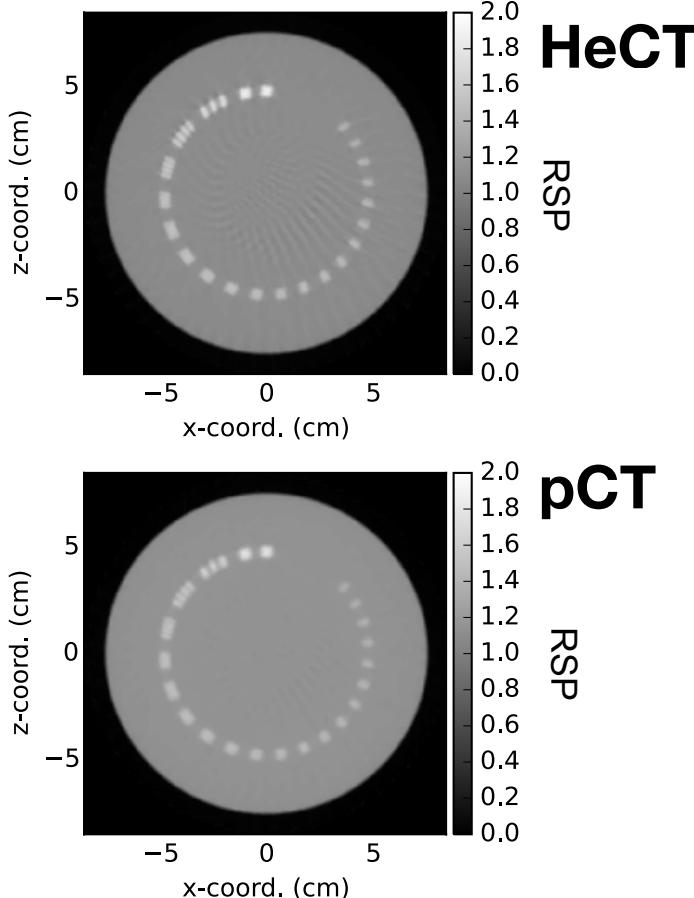
- 256x256 pixels, 0.66 mm
- TVS-DROP algorithm\*
- 6 iterations, 40 blocks

\*Penfold et al., 2010



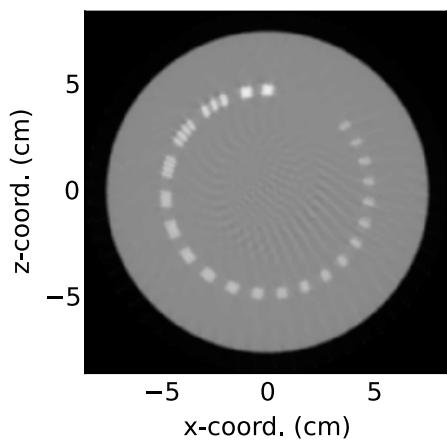
# Spatial Resolution: CTP528

90 projections

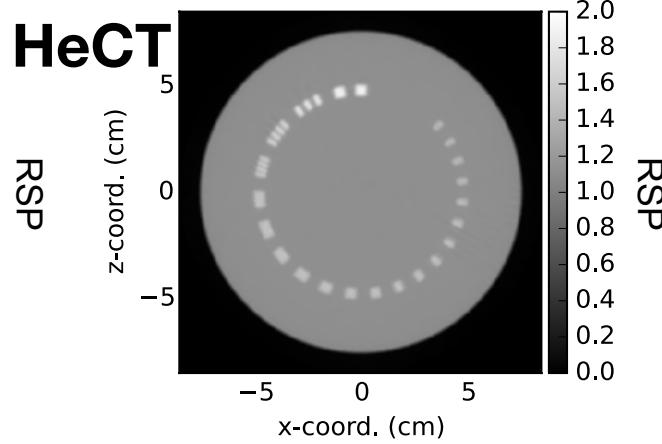


# Spatial Resolution: CTP528

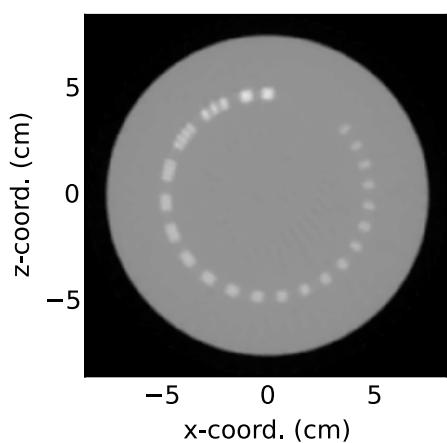
90 projections



180 projections

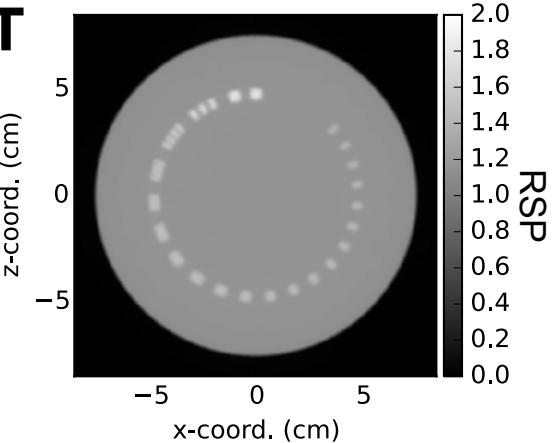


HeCT



RSP

pCT

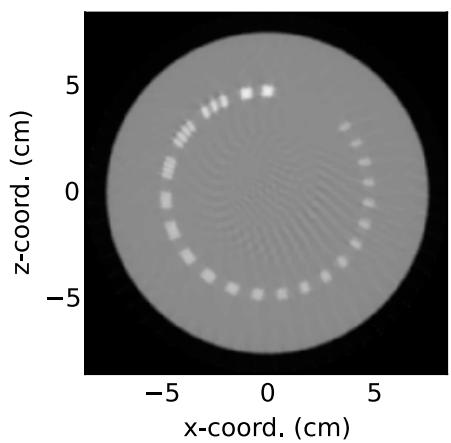


RSP

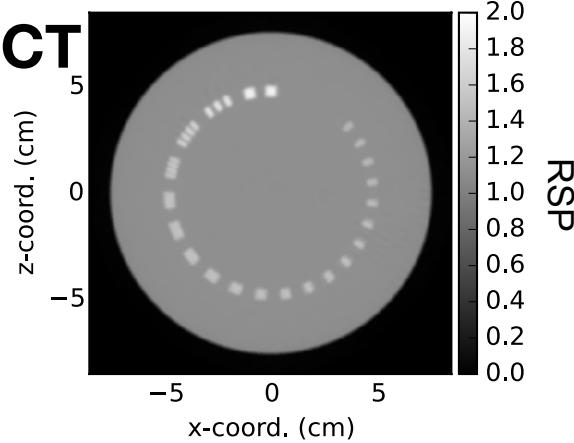


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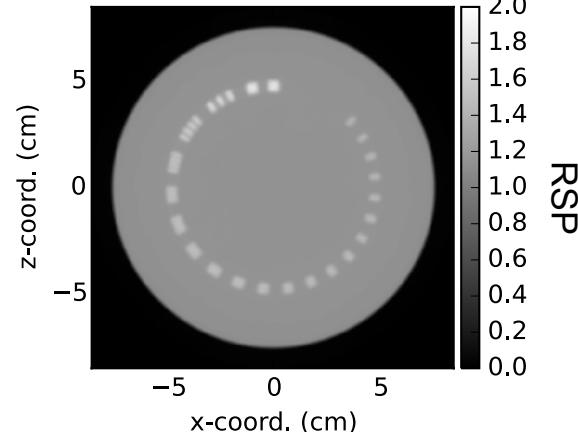
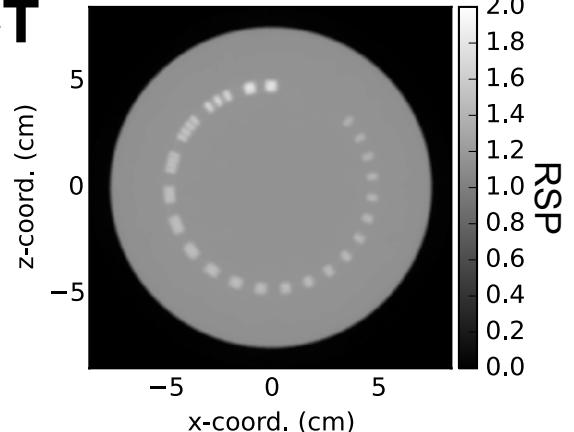
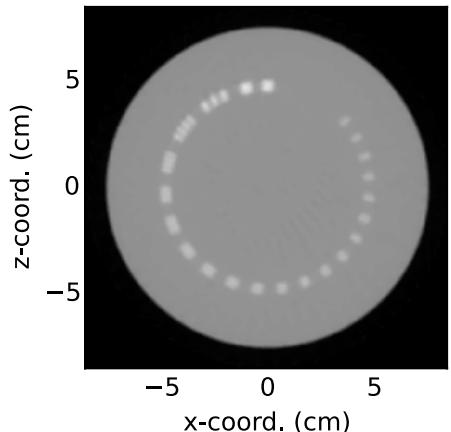
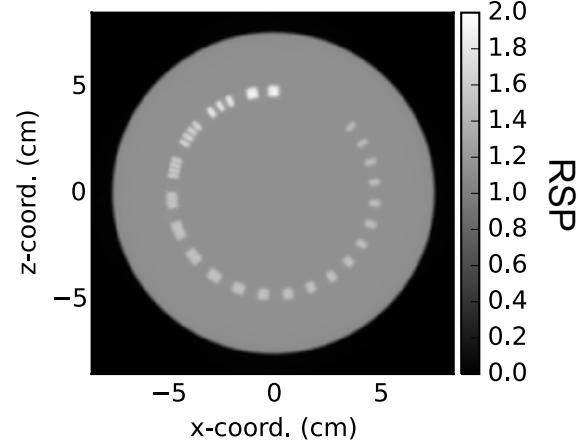
**90 projections**



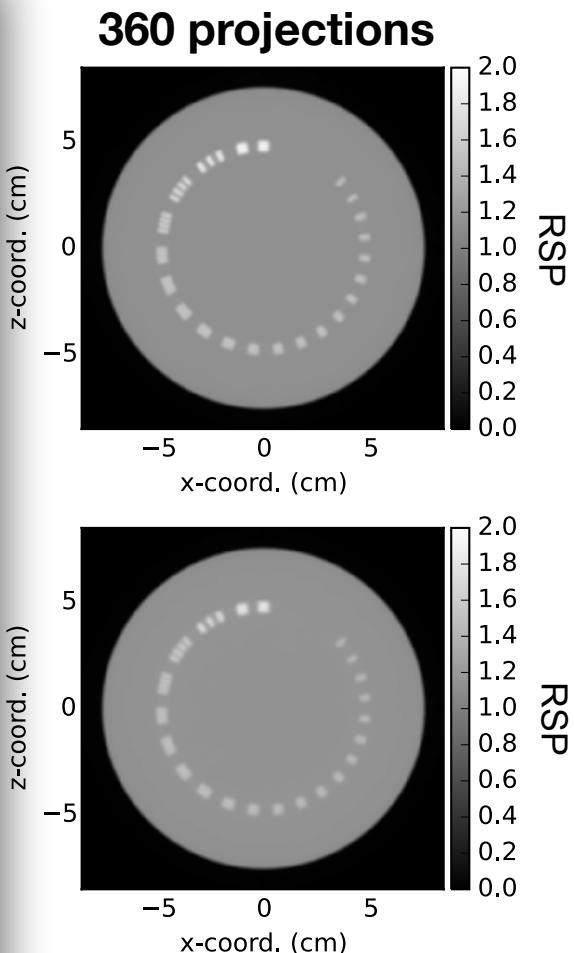
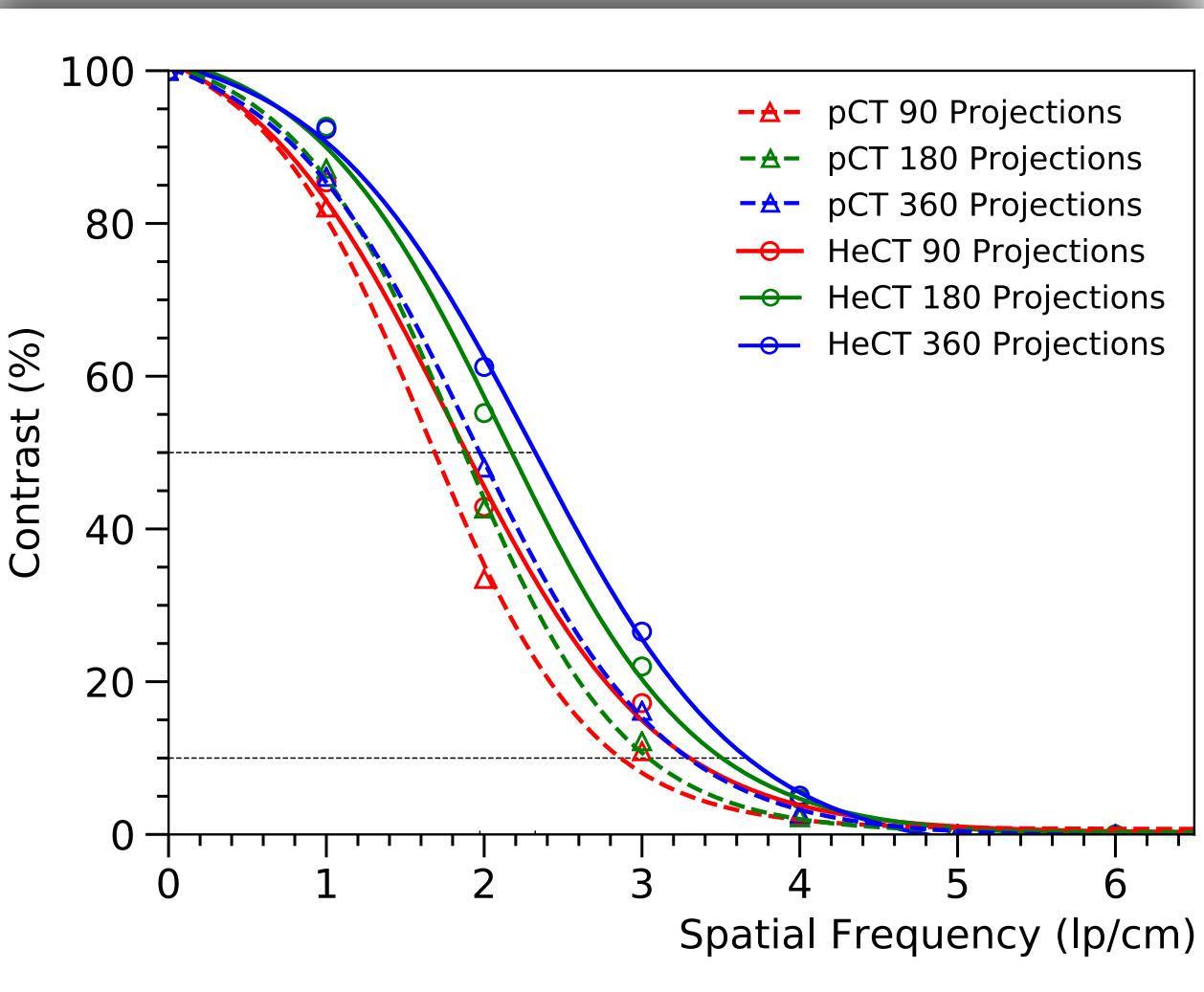
**180 projections**



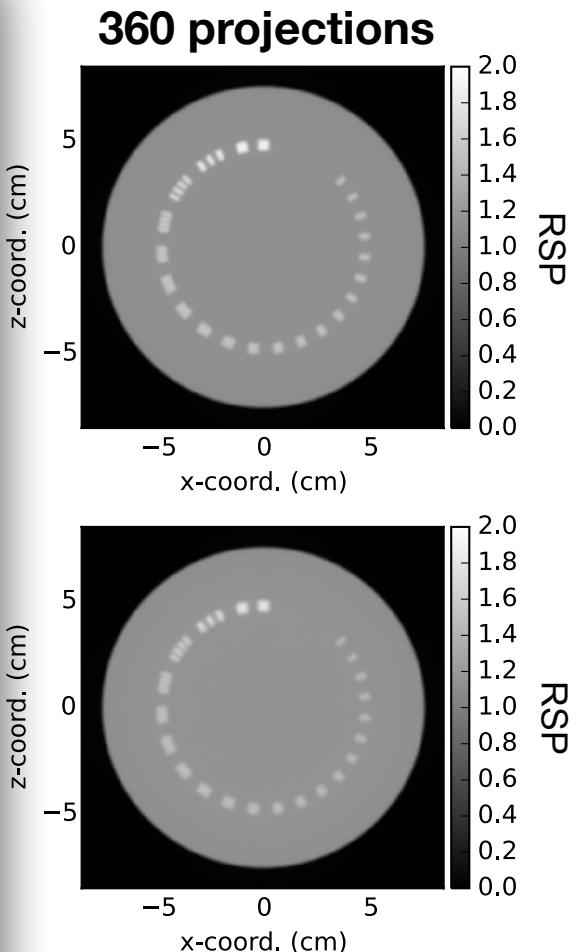
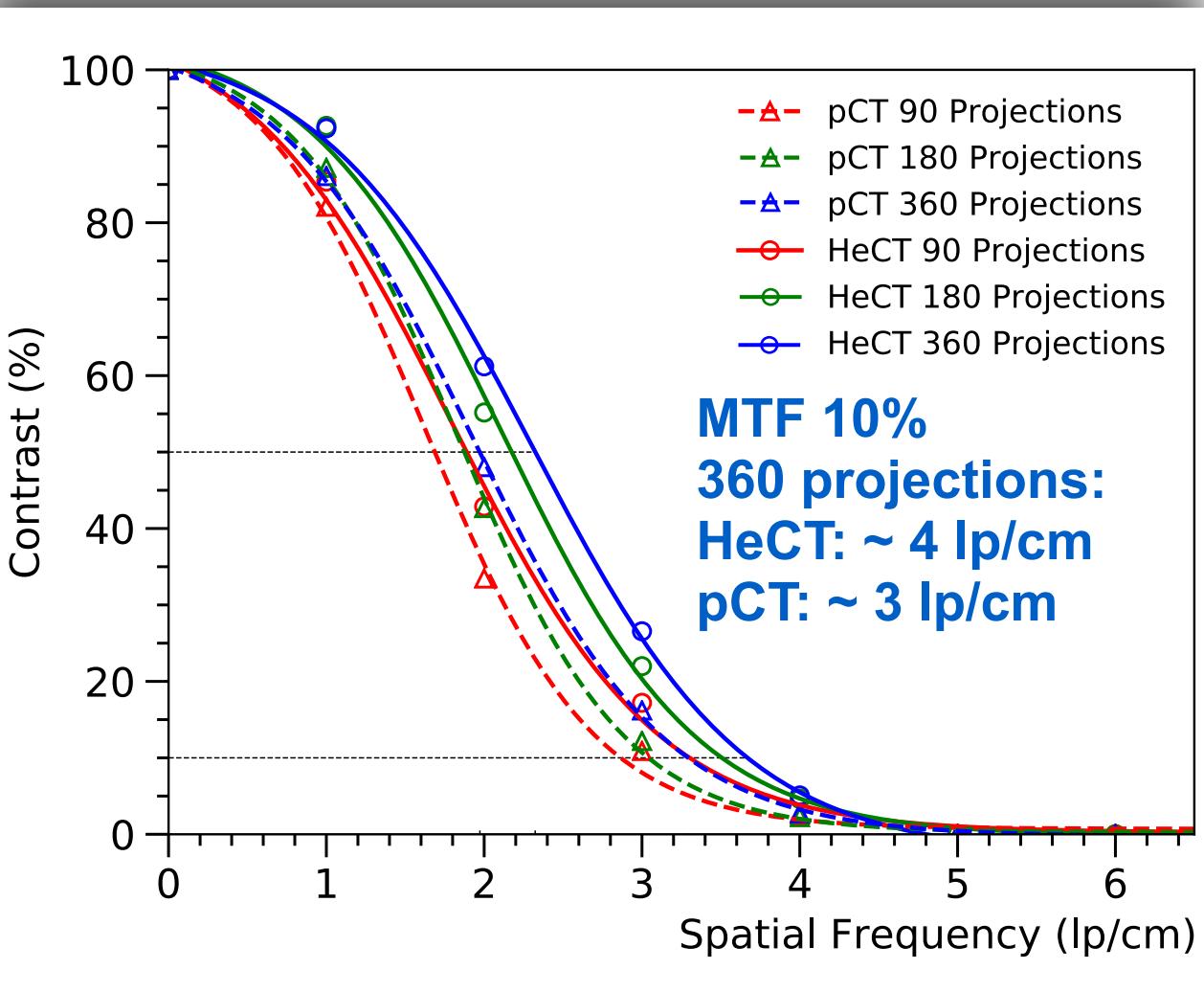
**360 projections**



# Spatial Resolution: CTP528



# Spatial Resolution: CTP528





# Fragment filtering



# Bergen pCT collaboration



# Bergen pCT collaboration

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## Organization

- UiB, HiB, HUS
- Utrecht University
- DKFZ Heidelberg
- Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Budapest

## Financing

- 44 MNOK,  
5 years (2017-2021)

## Status

- Finishing the optimization of the design
- Start mass-production of ALPIDE chips
- Sensor characterization





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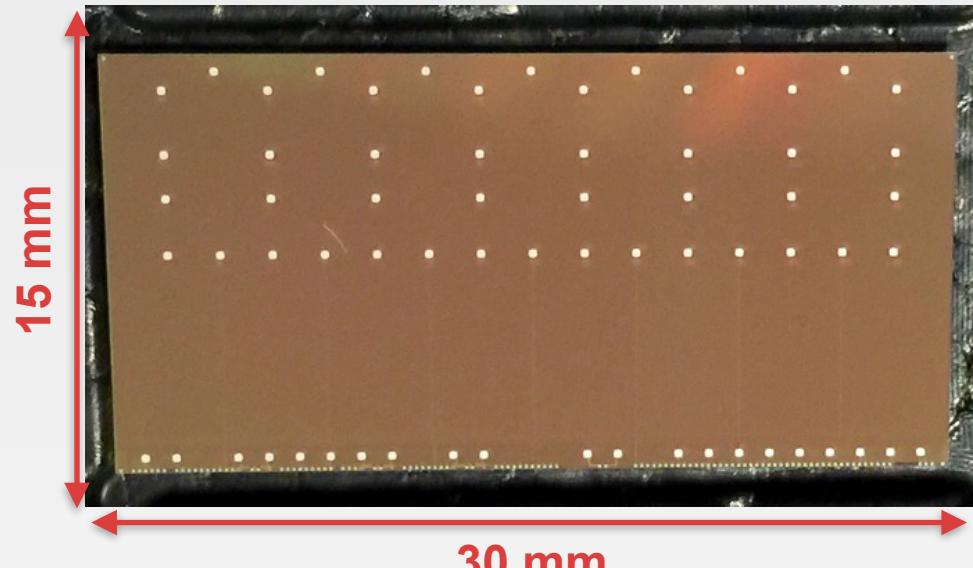
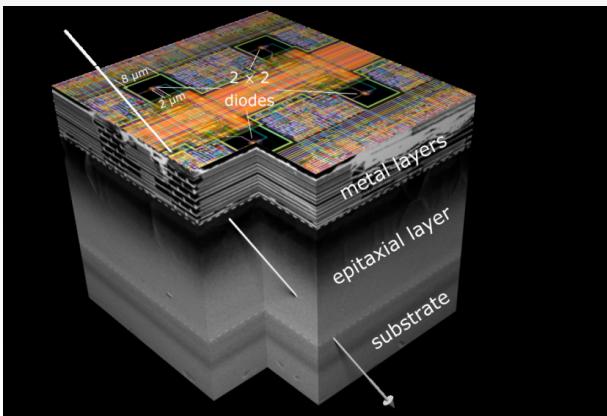
**Norwegian government has decided to build two particle therapy facilities (Oslo, Bergen), to be operational by 2022 rep. 2025**



# Pixel sensor

## ALPIDE chip

- sensor for the upgrade of the inner tracking system of the ALICE experiment at CERN
- chip size  $\approx 3 \times 1.5 \text{ cm}^2$ , pixel size  $\approx 28 \mu\text{m}$ , integration time  $\approx 4 \mu\text{s}$
- on-chip data reduction (priority encoding per double column)



Design team:  
CCNU Wuhan, CERN Geneva, YONSEI Seoul,  
INFN Cagliari, INFN Torino, IPHC Strasbourg,  
IRFU Saclay, NIKHEF Amsterdam



# Optimization of the design

## Geometry

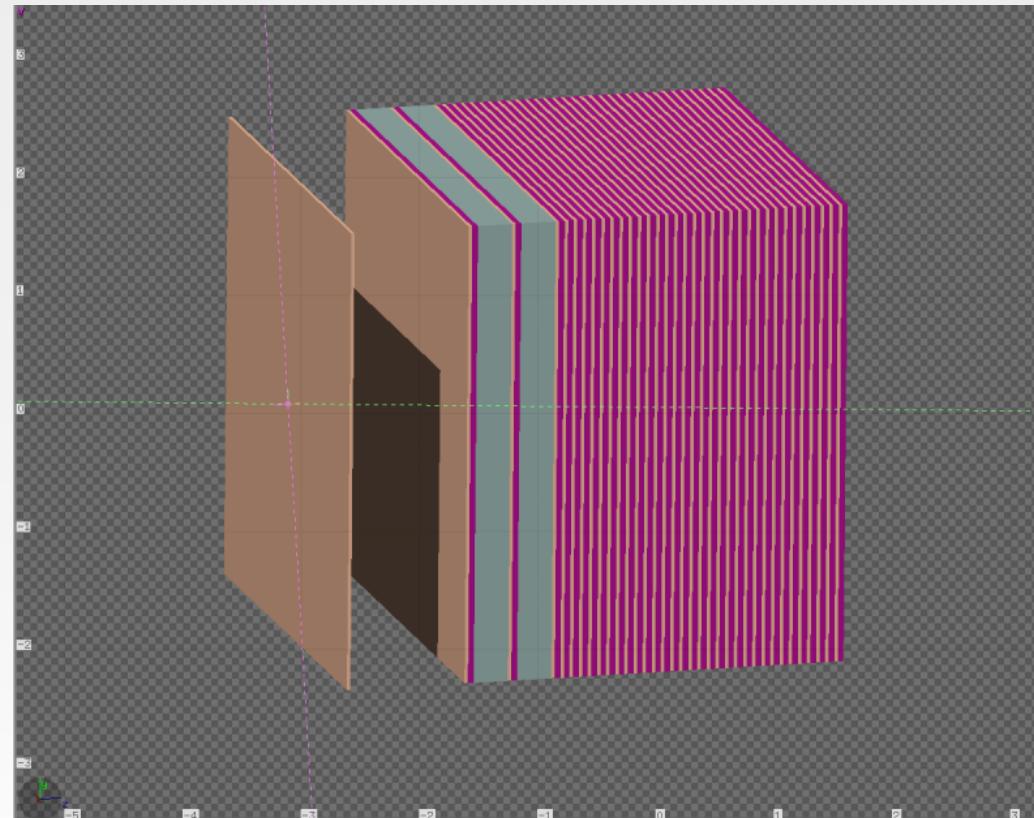
- front area: 27 cm x 15(18) cm

## longitudinal segmentation

- number of sensitive resp. absorber layers: 41

## absorber

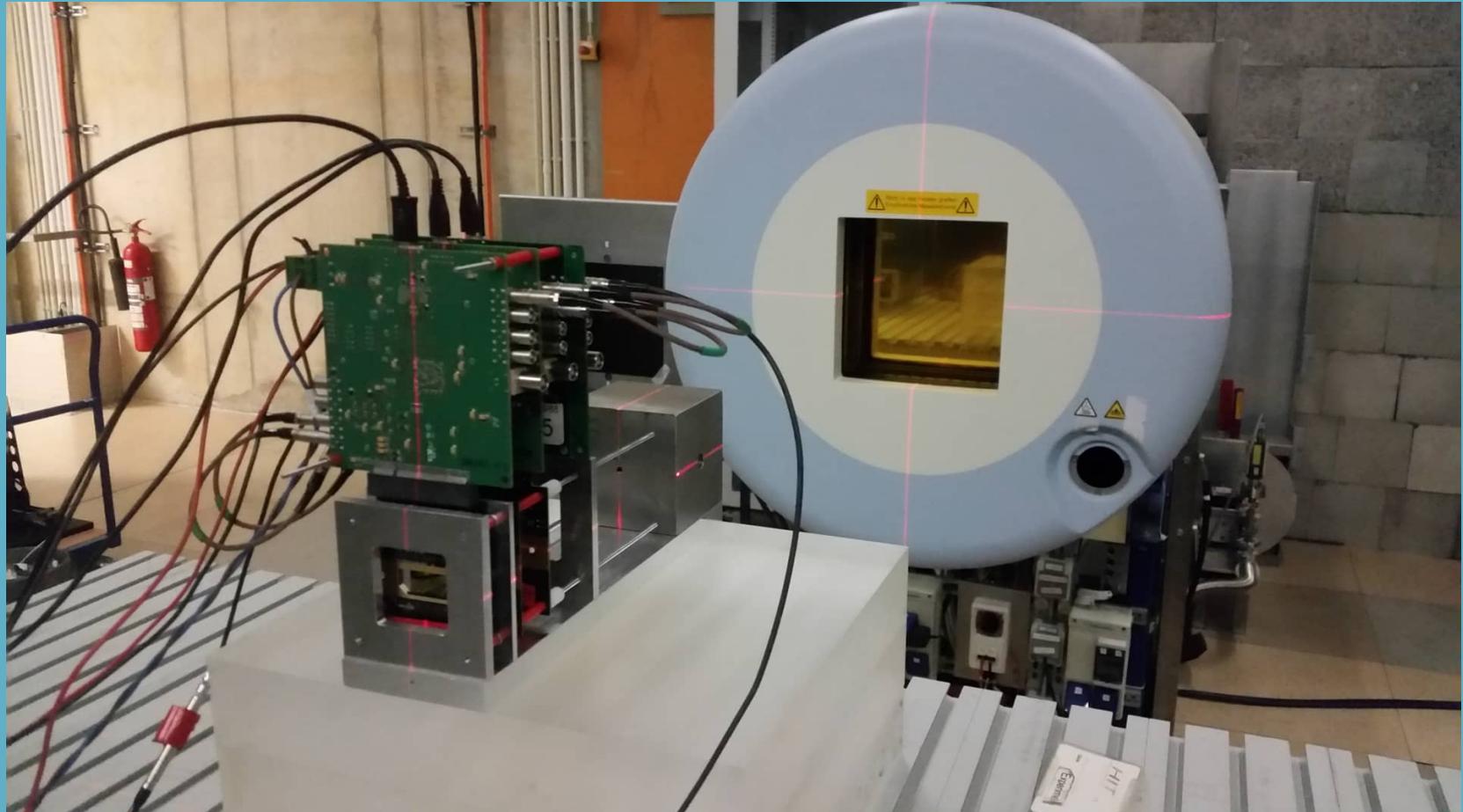
- energy degrader, mechanical carrier,
- cooling medium
- material choice: Al
- thickness: 3.5 mm



# Experiment at HIT with 3 Alpide chips



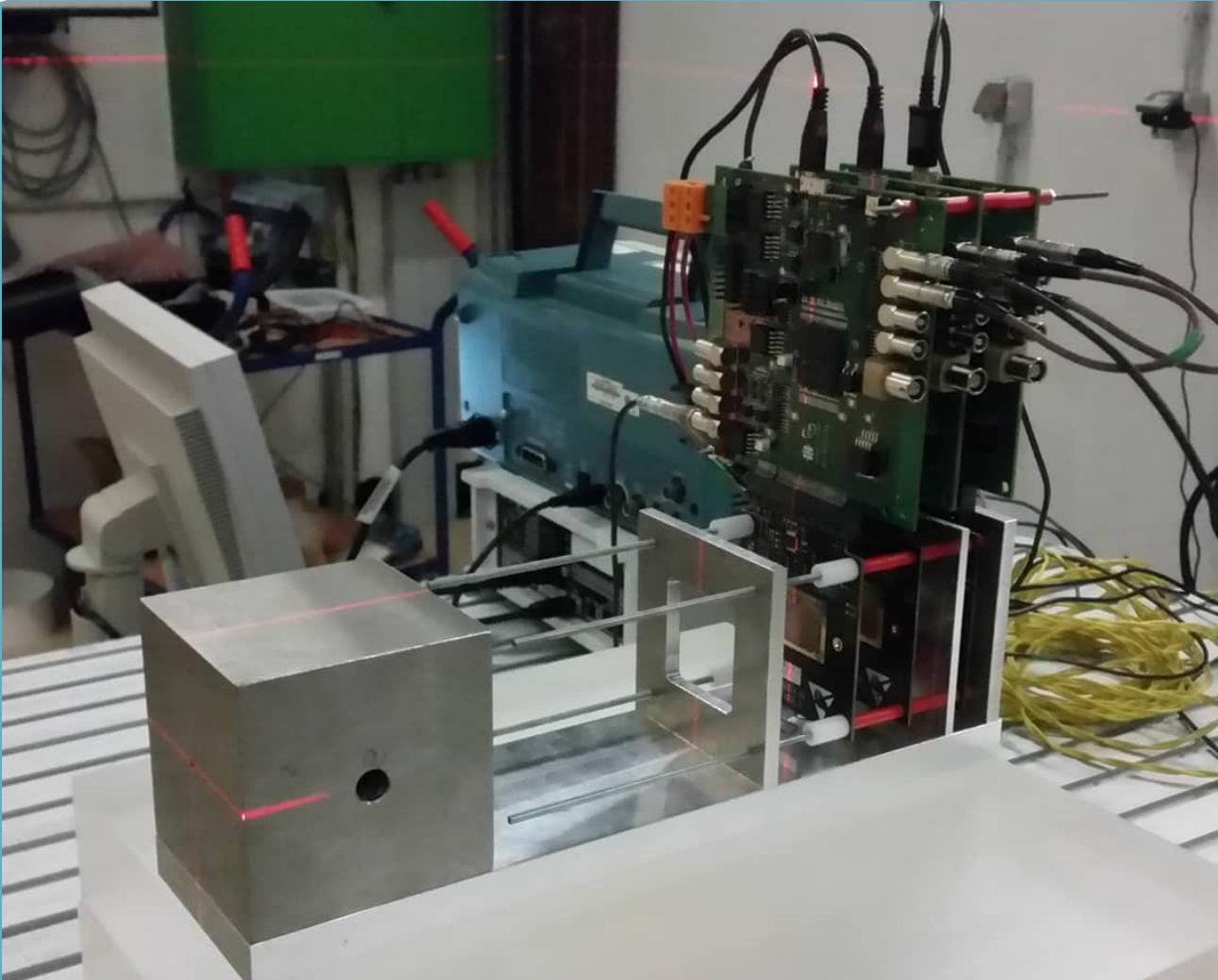
July 2018



# Experiment at HIT with 3 Alpide chips



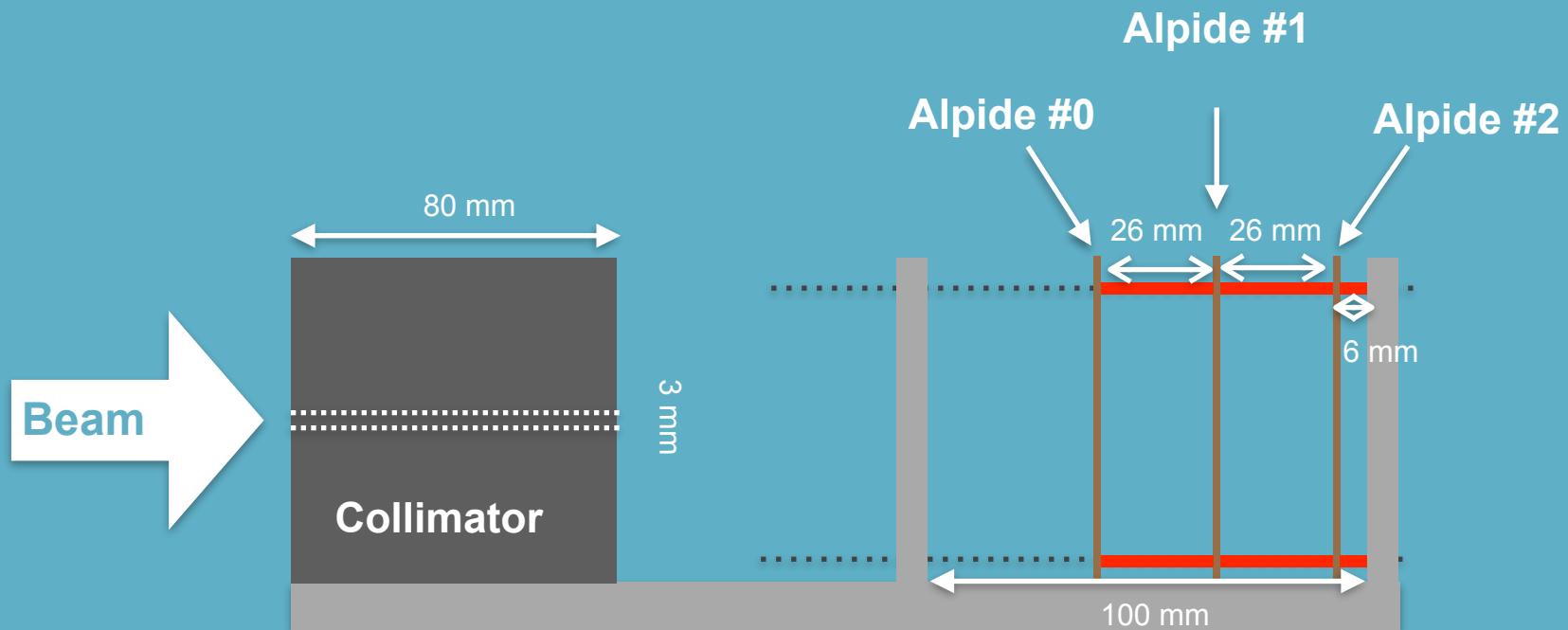
July 2018



# Experiment at HIT with 3 Alpide chips



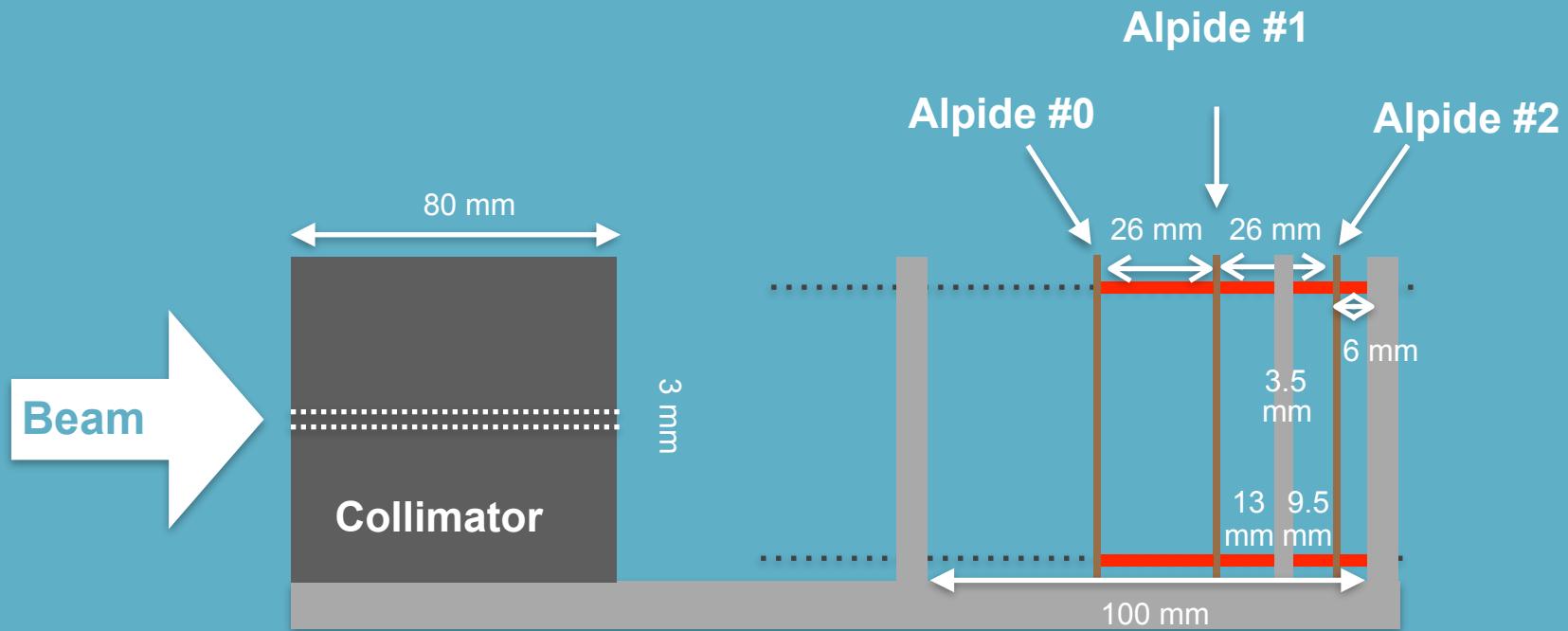
July 2018



# Experiment at HIT with 3 Alpide chips



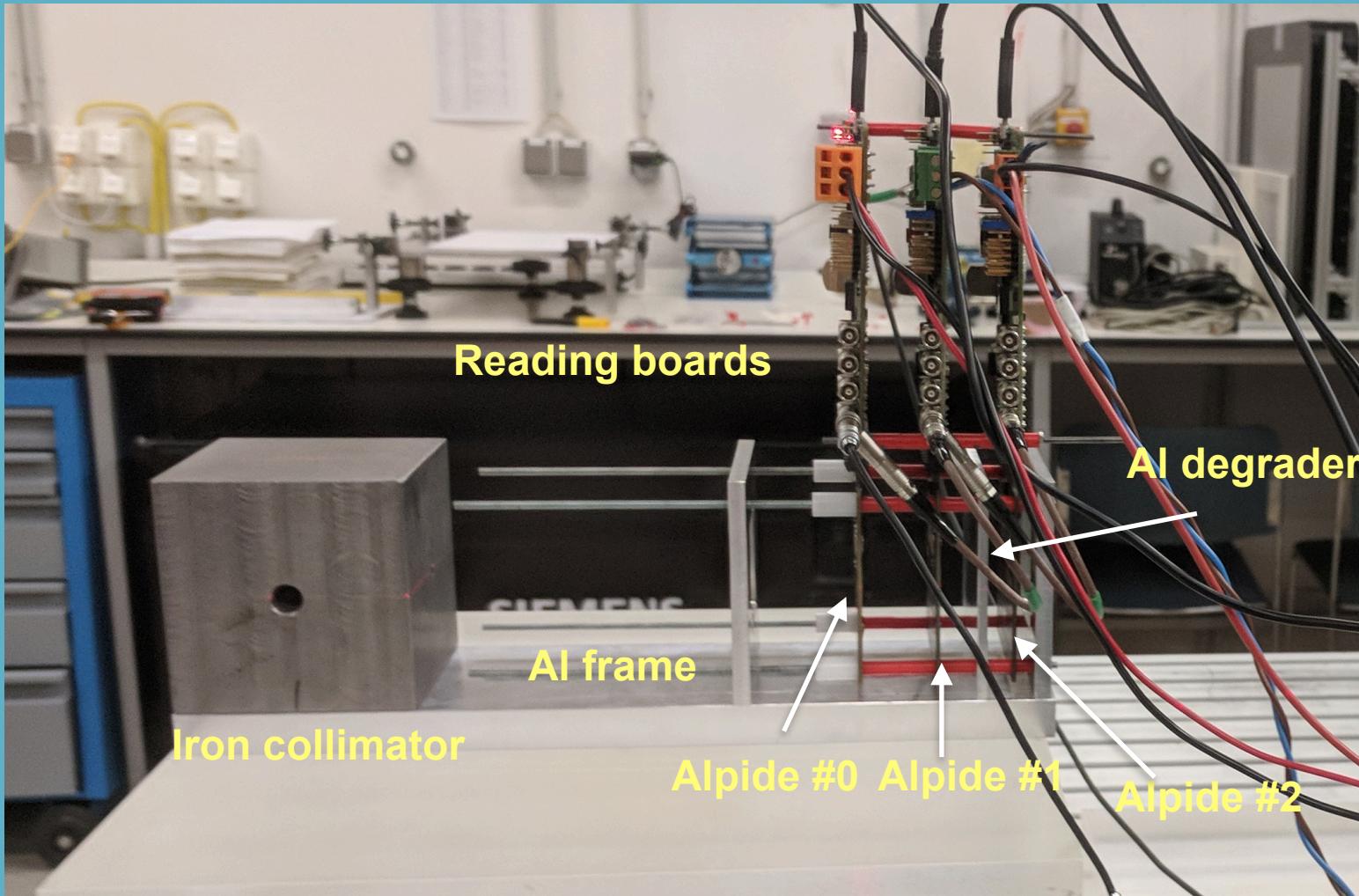
July 2018



# Experiment at HIT with 3 Alpide chips



July 2018





# Helium ions

## 5 Energies (FWHM)

- 220.5 MeV/u (10.1 mm)
- 200.38 MeV/u (10.2 mm)
- 50.57 MeV/u (20.6 mm)
- 100.19 MeV/u (12.9 mm)
- 150.11 MeV/u (11.1 mm)

## Triggering

- 10  $\mu$ s, 30  $\mu$ s

## Collimator

- 3 mm, 10 mm

## Beam

- 12 s extraction time
- $\sim$ 100  $\pm$ 50 kHz intensity hitting the collimator

# Protons

## 5 Energies (FWHM)

- 221.06 MeV (12.6 mm)
- 200.11 MeV (12.8 mm)
- 48.12 MeV (32.7 mm)

## Triggering

- 30  $\mu$ s

## Collimator

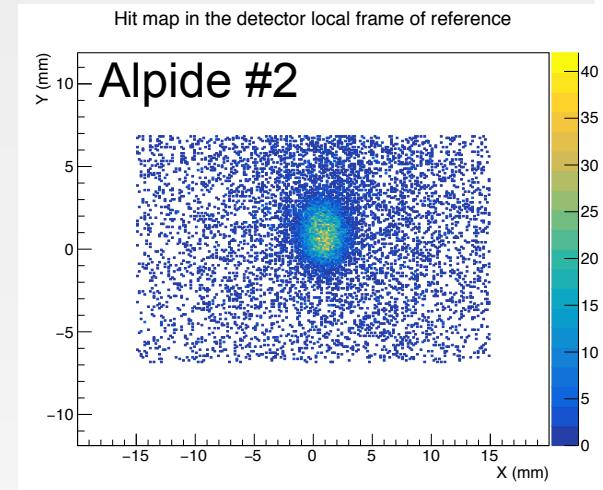
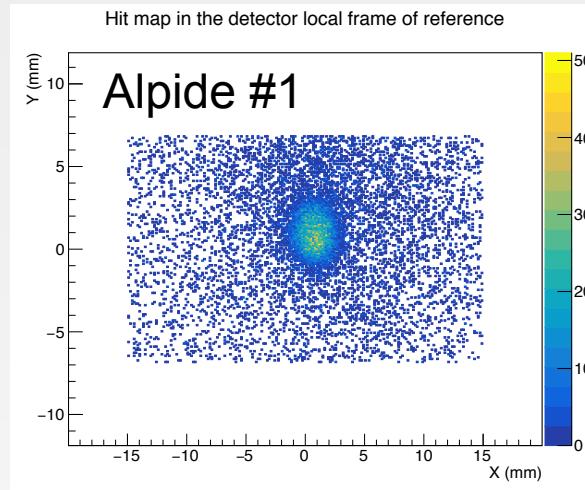
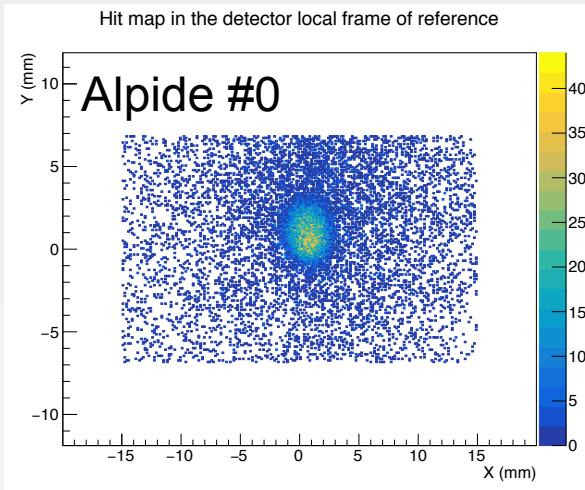
- 3 mm

## Beam

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- $\sim$ 100  $\pm$ 50 kHz intensity hitting the collimator



# Initial results - Alignment

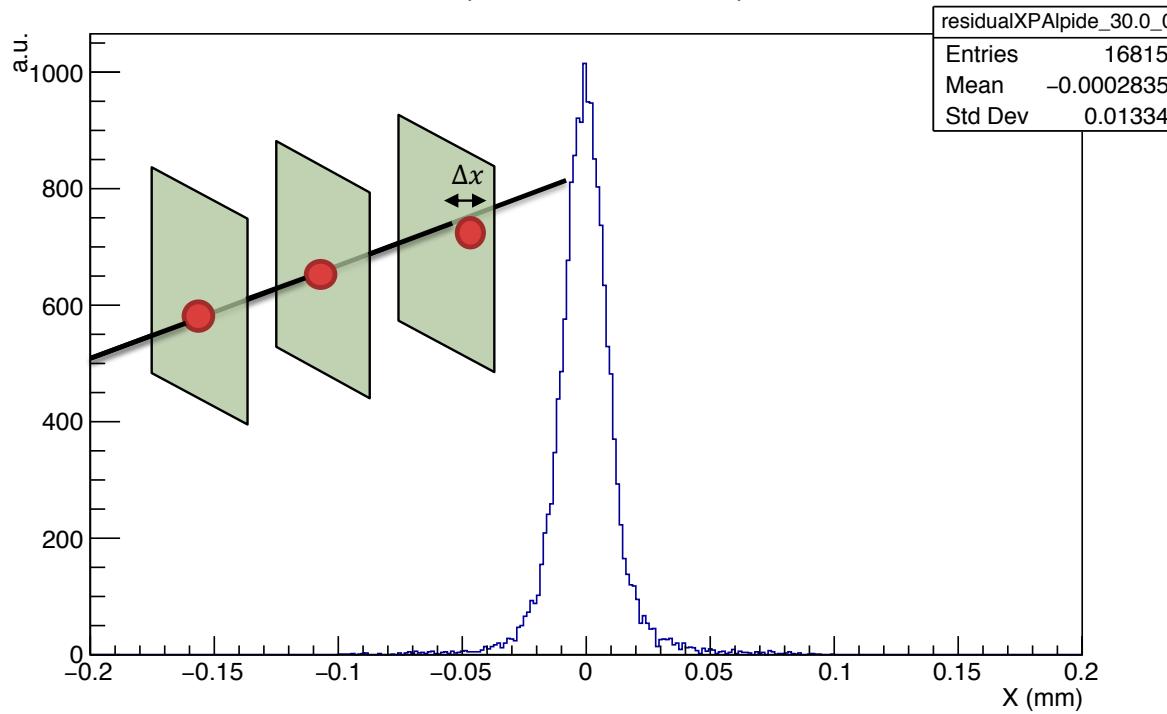


- Energy (FWHM):  
220.5 MeV/u  
(10.1 mm)
- Triggering: 10  $\mu$ s
- Collimator: 3 mm
- 96.5% tracking efficiency  
in 3 layers
- 15% of events have «ghosts»
- $\sim 80$  kHz  $^4\text{He}$  rate



# Initial results - Alignment

Residual X (Max chi2 = 30.0), sector 0

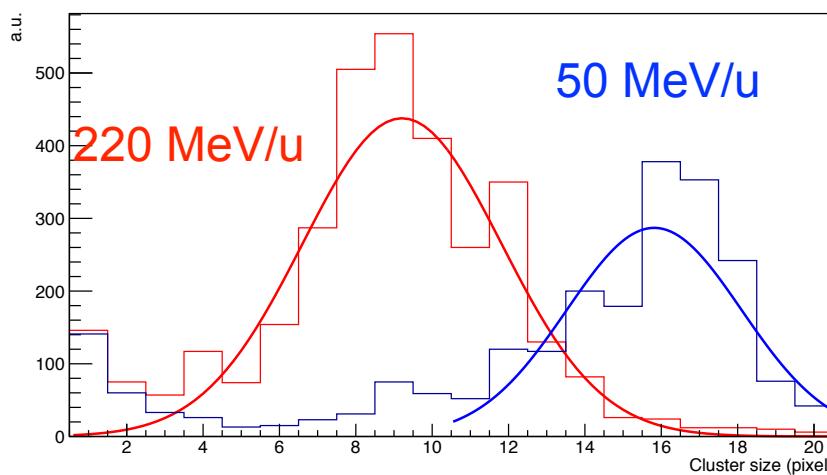


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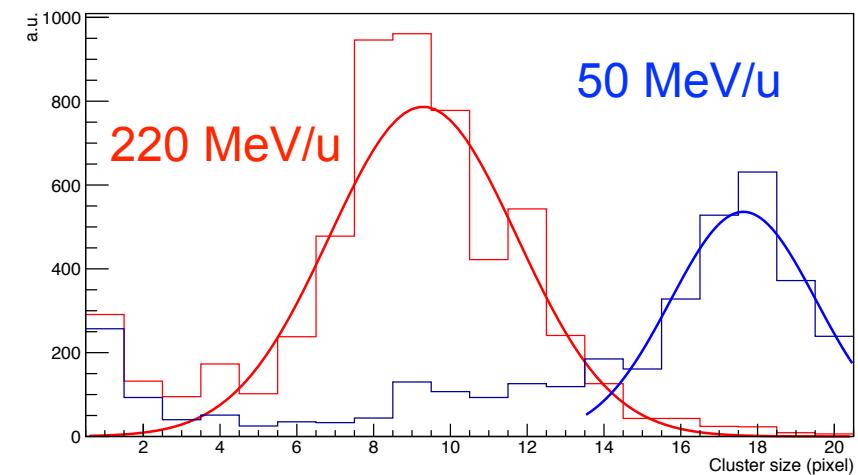


# Initial results - Cluster size on the 3rd chip

without AI degr.



with AI degr.



## 220MeV/u

- mean:9.21
- sigma: 2.60
- Triggering:10  $\mu$ s

## 50 MeV/u

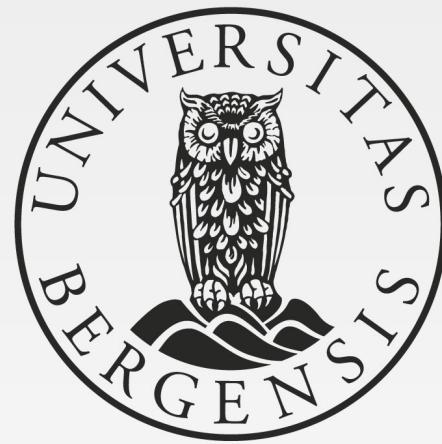
- mean:15.81
- sigma: 2.28

## 220MeV/u

- mean: 9.29
- sigma: 2.44
- Collimator: 3 mm

## 50 MeV/u

- mean: 17.63
- sigma:1.89



# Human-like phantoms

- Digital head phantom<sup>1</sup>:  
10-year old human female  
 $90 \times 114 \times 10^3$  cubic voxels  
 $2 \times 2 \times 2 \text{ mm}^3$

Each voxel has a specific material composition and density

Reference RSP values calculated for each material<sup>2</sup>

- CIRS HN715:  
Anthropomorphic pediatric head phantom  
(CIRS, Norfolk, Virginia, USA)

<sup>1</sup>Lee et al. 2010

<sup>2</sup>Piersimoni et al. 2017

